NBC NIGHTLY NEWS - CAMPAIGN 1976 NEWS REPORTS (AUGUST)

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From August 1976 NBC NIGHTLY News reports of the 1976 Presidential Campaign.

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kenya as his running mate just one week ago the idea was that schweiker would be able to bring some uncommitted northeastern delegates into the reagan column and today reagan's campaign manager called a press conference in washington to claim a dozen new delegates john cochran was there reagan's campaign manager john sears took a lot of heat when his candidate chose senator schweiker as his running mate but sears says that move is starting to pay off and that swiper helped persuade the 12 new delegates claimed by the reagan forces today cyr says the pressure is now on president ford to choose his partner i think that you will find as the remaining two weeks go by between now the republican convention that uh mr ford will find himself in a position where uh it is not possible for him to sit by and uh not answer the pressing question that uh now is before him and that namely is uh who he would choose as a running mate if he were nominated but the president's chief delegate hunter jim baker said mr ford has done the right thing by asking delegates to mail in their recommendations for the number two spot those recommendations won't even arrive until next week baker said reagan did not help himself by choosing schweiker so early and baker added that most of the reagan delegates announced today were already in reagan's column we have here a situation where the opposition has gone out and named a united states senator as uh from pennsylvania as uh the candidates running mate uh and in the face of that we find uh perhaps at the very most uh three switches uh from the pennsylvania delegation now that's that by any by any stretch of the imagination i don't think you can characterize that as a massive shift the president's aides say he's so confident that he spent part of his day working on the acceptance speech he expects to deliver at kansas city but some doubts must still remain here it was announced that mr ford will continue to provide warm personal welcomes to delegates who haven't stopped by the white house yet

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haven't stopped by the white house yet john cochran nbc news the white house actually we may not know the real outcome of all this until the first ballot is called at the convention in kansas city of these 12 claimed delegates nbc news talked to every one of them today and our tally is different we find that eight of them had been for reagan pretty much all along some as long ago as last may we did find four of the twelve who have moved recently from the ranks of the uncommitted into the reagan column but only four david in modern political history no candidate for president has ever gone back to new hampshire after its primary they love the state during the primary but not quite enough to go back to it after they're nominated well today jimmy garter went back for a fundraiser and a speech judy woodruff went there with him almost six months after he won his first primary here carter returned to new hampshire for his first major speech since the convention at a lunch hour rally in manchester carter made it clear he isn't waiting for the republicans to pick their nominee before he attacked an administration of vetoes and not vision an administration of scandal and not stability or prize an administration of rhetoric [Music] and not reason an administration of wind buttons and empty promises instead of progress and prosperity expanding on a theme he's used before carter deplored what he

called the breakdown of the american family and cited statistics of broken homes and young people in trouble he held the republicans partly responsible for what he called a shocking situation because they have permitted unemployment to get worse the economic policies that seem to be cold statistics

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cold statistics quite often have a devastating blow afflicted on human beings in the last eight years of the nixon ford administration we've seen a abysmal of sensitivity about people carter said welfare urban renewal and tax policies under the republicans are what he called anti-family quarter ended by making two ambitious promises that his administration would make no decision that did not strengthen the family and that each new federal program he proposed would include an explanation of what its effect on the family would be judy woodruff nbc news manchester new hampshire b judy woodruff nbc news manchester new hampshire a little later carter made the roughest toughest partisan political remarks he has made in the campaign so far he said the republicans this fall will be desperate and will turn on him and mondale in what he called an almost unprecedented vicious personal attack he said they will be desperate because they stand low in the polls and have serious divisions in their party in our bicentennial election the president of the united states and the former governor of california are scrounging desperately for one delegate here and one delegate there ronald reagan was in mississippi to see what he could pick up there while president ford was entertaining the virginia delegation with refreshments and goodies at the white house to see if he could talk a few of them in the switching from reagan to him while reagan flew into mississippi today he took senator swanker with him tom pettit was there too [Music] this is ronald reagan the conservative turned pragmatist this is senator richard schweiker the liberal turned designated running mate for reagan this is mrs weiker brought along to help impress the ladies and gentlemen of the

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impress the ladies and gentlemen of the mississippi republican delegation they are here to try to save the delegation's 30 votes from the clutches of president ford at this point this delegation depends on how well governor reagan can sell what he's done what he's done and justify it how well senator schweiker can sell himself and what he stands for to this delegation i'm going to tell him first of all that i don't have horns second i'm going to tell them that i even got a little bit of education in the south having attended georgia military academy third i'm going to tell that my father and grandparents were baptists and that seems to be a factor this year and uh i do not grow peanuts last friday when mr ford was here he talked pointedly about the selection of a running mate he said he would pull every delegate and every alternate from every state to get their opinions [Music] in late june across town when reagan was last here he also talked frankly about the vice presidency he rejected the job for himself on these grounds there's no way and i think that uh if i am not to be uh the nominee of the party that i could accomplish far more on the outside uh doing what i've done in the past which is speaking the principles that are that i believe in secondly i've never really believed that a vice president uh does particularly gather votes for a president if the man that you're nominating for president can get the votes by himself i don't think that you can put someone in the second position who's going to carry him over the change of emphasis on the importance of the vice presidency leaves reagan with a tremendous credibility gap especially here in the south and especially because of spiker's liberal reputation so far at least the striker ploy is not working in mississippi as an upshot of today's meeting one important reagan alternate switched to ford and the powerful chairman of the delegation clark reed remained with ford tom bennett nbc news in jackson mississippi

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in jackson mississippi the nbc news count of republican delegates tonight shows some interesting developments six of them formally committed to ford or reagan who are now sliding into the uncommitted column here's our account tonight ford 1112 18 short of what he needs reagan 1031 99 short and 116 uncommitted that's an increase of six uncommitted delegates six who thought yesterday they knew what they wanted but today are not sure john fans are mounting a campaign to keep john connolly off the ticket if

president ford gets the presidential nomination the president hasn't said he would choose conley but he hasn't ruled him out either today four members of congress called at the white house to argue against connelly among them were two members of the judiciary committee who voted to impeach richard nixon tom railsback of illinois and william cohen of maine john cochran has more on the story from washington when john connelly endorsed president ford last week liberal republicans started worrying did the endorsement mean connolly would be number two on a ford ticket in the past week some of mr ford's political allies have warned that conley would be a liability illinois congressman paul findley sent this letter to his republican colleagues warning that conley is indelibly associated in the public mind with watergate referring to a six-year-old white house tape finley said connolly urged nixon to raise the milk price support level in return for campaign contributions finley said that's not the kind of advice that a president should receive and that evidence alone should disqualify mr connolly from consideration finley's letter was followed by more attacks on conoley today from other republicans including cohen from maine my point of view john conley symbolizes the the power politics of the sixties it's an era that's gone by i think that tape the march 23 1971 tape uh clearly uh shows a type of power politics which the american people

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politics which the american people no longer would tolerate i think the democratic party is trying unfairly to tie president ford into the watergate scandals and that's clearly not the case and i think that conley's presence on the ticket would only uh place a further burden present for the deal but some of the president's advisers think it can only help mr ford in his fight for the nomination if conservative delegates think conley may be his running mate late today some virginia delegates stop by the white house at the president's invitation and if they want to think that conley will be on the ticket then mr ford will do nothing to discourage them john cochran nbc news the white house jimmy carter may take to the rails in the fall presidential campaign robert strauss the democratic party chairman says the party has been trying since 1964 to organize a cross-country campaign trip by train straus said today that carter raised the idea of a whistle stop jaunt and strauss said we're going to give him a train ride or bust ourselves trying we don't know where we're going or when we're going but we're going there was more uncertainty today about who will vote for whom when the republicans begin their presidential balloting in kansas city three days ago our count showed neither ford nor reagan with enough votes for the nomination and there were then 110 uncommitted delegates today there are 122 uncommitted so the outcome remains uncertain reagan and his chosen running mate senator richard schweiker were on the road today in new york and new jersey button-holding uncommitted delegates earlier they had been in mississippi courting that state's uncommitted delegation and traveling with them was our man kenley jones left mississippi after receiving a mixed reception but they also apparently held their own among the delegates there reagan said he is confident he will overcome the doubts about his credibility for choosing what he called a moderate running mate yes there are differences i'm not going to i'm not sitting here it would be unfair to him to say oh i

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it would be unfair to him to say oh i have discovered this is a closet conservative any more than he would say to his people that i'm a closet uh moderate or liberal but we certainly found uh enough that well it shouldn't have surprised us we are in the same party and uh there are basic fundamentals of republican policy to which people subscribe what convinced you after only one face-to-face conversation with this man that he would could serve as president of the united states have called on to do that well one face-to-face though was six hours he mary frankly said to me he said as long as i have input as long as i can relay my views to you he said i recognize that in this relationship uh always but the decision would have to be mine and he said once the decision is made he said that is the program upon which we campaign reagan said one reason he chose schweiker was to win votes in november in the northeast where he took his campaign today in new york reagan had hoped to meet with at least a dozen uncommitted delegates but only three showed up and only one of them said he has switched to support from ford reagan he did not say it was because schweiker is now on the ticket before reagan left mississippi the state campaign chairman said the only way reagan can hope to win the nomination is to show that his selection of spiker as a running mate was a piece of smart

campaign strategy to do that he must draw more delegates from the northeast that's why this trip is so important that's why the results today were not overly impressive kimlee jones nbc news new york press secretary ron nessen said mr ford expects to pick his running mate after he gets the nomination and nessen said again that the best way to give advice to mr ford on a running mate is to put it in a letter and mail it to the president and the campaign to keep john connelly of texas off the ticket continued today

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continued today senator robert griffin of michigan who will be the president's floor manager at the convention said cautiously that there are pluses and minuses in a connolly candidacy head place in the road but the carter family is the most important in town and if jimmy carter gets to be president there will be to put it mildly an increase in land values and planes and even now months before the election there are stirrings in the little town involving land and zoning and the carter family judy woodruff has the story the carter family is one of the biggest land holders in the plains area they own more than a thousand acres of farmland inside the city limits almost 120 acres the most valuable being the land under their peanut processing plant jimmy carter himself owns only a few lots in town but his brother and mother own more six months after carter announced he was a candidate for president his brother billy bought 175 acres about one quarter of it inside the city close to where their houses are billy carter says he wanted to protect his part of town from unwise development i bought it because all i wanted in my backyard and i still won't sell any of it so it's not uh i didn't buy it for well really as a product making thing i bought it because i wanted the land really county records show billy carter paid more than 600 an acre for the land a local real estate broker says today land in and around planes would bring at least a hundred dollars an acre more than that local officials are worried that if carter wins the election tourist oriented development may get out of hand the problem could be worse outside planes because the county has no zoning laws in planes changes are already going on to protect the town in the future the city council is likely to adopt an ordinance to restrict architectural design the proposal was drawn up with the approval of the carters it is also through carter involvement that the three-year-old zoning code in plains

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the three-year-old zoning code in plains is suddenly being enforced a local couple found that out after they asked for permission to relocate their craft shop and were surprised to learn there would first have to be a public hearing to my knowledge this is the first time i've ever heard of a public hearing to get a place rezoned in the residential area billy carter and plane's assistant mayor say they expect the walters petition will be denied they asked me to uh the only way i have talked to them at all they asked me how jimmy felt about it i told him that uh as far as i knew jimmy was was against any rezoning in residential sections mrs walter says she is going through with the request billy carter makes no secret of the fact that he has a lot to say about what happens in planes i know how jimmy feels and we feel the same way and i do kind of speak with him on the when he's not here i speak with him on the changes taking place in planes and we're trying to let it change we want it to change as little as possible we realize it's going to have to change some a survey is being made to determine if traffic light should be installed in planes billy carter is only half joking when he says the lights will go up if he says so the assistant mayor says he does not check with billy carter but he knows what the carters think about things nbc news planes georgia and there was this late development after judy woodruff finished her work on the story mrs walters the lady who wants to move her shop had a talk with jimmy and rosalind carter after that talk she withdrew her request for a zoning hearing until after the election we asked mrs walters if carter had opposed the idea for a new location for her shop she wouldn't say good night for nbc news have to come up with detailed information on health money and taxes along with an agreement to let all the information be made public we have learned that the white house intends to talk about

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house intends to talk about john connolly with leon jaworski the former watergate prosecutor and another prospect already being checked out as senator howard baker of tennessee ronald reagan and senator richard schweiker who was already the man reagan wants were out beating the bushes today for delegates in pennsylvania schweiker's home state there was a little delegate switching today but little advantage either to president ford or to ronald reagan here is don oliver with reagan's day in pennsylvania before schweicher was added to the ticket reagan had only five committed delegates out of 102. since then they claim five more have swung over not an impressive showing by a senator in his home state schweiker brought reagan to philadelphia to see if the two of them couldn't pry loose some more delegates at a news conference they played it cagey claiming they could get another 15 to 20 delegates but refusing to name names because of what they said was pressure on the delegates from the ford camp we have found with a five that we already announced a horrendous amount of heavy-handed pressure going back to the five delegates who had the courage to stand stand up and be counted so we're going to strategically look at how we put them up in terms of their pressures well could i just interject a word there and say virtually it begins with breaking down the door and after that it's it's calls from everybody in the political establishment i've even had some delegates mention uh they've had people who do business with delegates call them reagan and schweiker have been polishing and refining their act in the three days that they've been together reagan now saying that he did not pick schweiker to win the republican convention in august he picked him to unite the two wings of the republican party so they can win in november dismayed conservatives say that's all well and good but schweiker had better produce delegate votes in august or he'll be back in the senate and reagan back on his ranch by september the candidates had lunch with 45 pennsylvania delegates and answered questions some four

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and answered questions some four delegates said they came not to be converted but out of courtesy to schweicher their senator afterward delegates said there was no change they noticed some said they were not impressed i'm very disappointed that he was governor reagan's choice of vice presidential running mate why is that due to his liberal voting record i should hope that the uh senator flyer would see that he's going to be a liability to the ticket and drop out there were no more announced switches schweiter said later he didn't want to play the numbers game but added that more names would be released at a strategically important time next week don oliver nbc news philadelphia and today to mark the occasion the white house put out a book which outlines mr ford's accomplishments it is being mailed to newspapers and broadcasters around the country and it was given to reporters at the white house one of them was our own john cochran who has this to say on mr ford's report card after 24 months in office two years after this unforgettable scene on the white house lawn gerald ford thinks he's done a pretty good job of running the country today he summed up his accomplishments in this document printed at government expense it lists ten major achievements since he became president one mr ford says inflation has been cut in half but when we check the government's figures on the last month of the nixon administration compared with figures for this july we found inflation down by one-third not one-half two over three million people have obtained jobs true three the unemployment rate has been significantly cut this is not accurate unemployment is two and a half percent higher today than it was two years ago four economic indicators are moving strongly upward true production figures show a 17 percent gain five farmers are scaling new heights not according to the american farm bureau which predicts farm income and exports this year will fall below those of 1974. six the growth of crime has been cut by

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six the growth of crime has been cut by more than seventy five percent true crime is increasing more slowly than it was two years ago seven downward trends in defense spending have been reversed true the pentagon is getting more money than ever before eight foreign alliances have never been stronger this claim overlooks some squabbles such as greek and turkish hostility to american military bases nine the nation is at peace abroad for the first time in over a decade true there is peace but american troops had already stopped fighting in southeast asia before mr ford became president 10 the nation is at peace with itself it is true that

the ford presidency brought an end to the country's preoccupation with watergate in his report the president says scandal has been erased from the white house and a recent survey shows that three out of every four americans think mr ford is a man of high integrity and a nice guy americans would vote overwhelmingly for gerald ford as their next door neighbor unfortunately for him that is not the elective office he is seeking john cochran nbc news washington republicans meet in this hall next monday but a lot of them were in kansas city today and what they are doing this week could determine the outcome next week yesterday the ford people lost one procedural battle in the platform committee today a ford supporter was removed from an important job on the committee by a vote of reagan delegates and reagan's campaign chairman john sears stepped out of nowhere with another interesting maneuver john hart was at the rules committee hearing when that happened nobody even saw the man enter there they all were drudging through trivia with the rule they came to fight about scheduled for tomorrow then suddenly he materialized as if beamed in on some starship transporter john sears let's welcome uh chairman sears i didn't realize he was with us

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he was here phaser gun aimed at gerald ford proposing a whole new rule to force the president to name his running mate before the presidential nomination the sears rule would force all candidates to name their choice by nine in the morning of nomination day the vice president must not be perceived as being thrust upon our party the real choice of no one he must be seen as someone over whom the convention had real influence not someone who was announced only after it was too late to do anything about it the committee was stunned ben clayburgh of north dakota suggesting this was not to improve the party so much as reagan's chances and at this point to bring it forth it appears very obviously to be an effort by one candidate to have an advantage or to make some points that could create a problem in this convention in the smooth running in this convention we finally decided ourselves that uh this was a good way to proceed and i really see nothing that's uh that's going to disrupt the confession if we properly proceed with this resolution the way it is it's a very simple resolution john hoff of arizona suggesting they take it up at the next convention would you be satisfied if you made a deployment for 1985 no i don't think so after moves the table and delay the committee voted no so sears will take it to another committee this week and if it votes no he'll take it to the floor in a fight to deny president ford the bargaining power reagan has already given up john hart nbc news kansas city at the white house the president was confidently working on his acceptance speech his press secretary said mr ford was that mr ford was keeping a close watch on what's going on in kansas city david the reagan squad has complained from the beginning that most of the good jobs at the convention were given to ford's people

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were given to ford's people today in a vote on platforms subcommittee chairman some of reagan's people acting on their own one one they got rid of a ford delegate rev representative silvio connie of massachusetts and replaced him with one of their boys charles pickering of mississippi and there are other events in today's platform hearing and catherine mackin was there to keep an eye on them the reagan rebels won a significant victory in this subcommittee on human rights replacing liberal congressman conte with charles pickering of mississippi pickering supports reagan's positions against abortion busing and the equal rights amendment in another subcommittee john east a leader of the reagan rebels got himself switched from a domestic task force to this task force on foreign policy east and the other reagan rebels would like to make the panama canal daetant and our south african policy major platform issues all together the reagan rebels had themselves a good day bringing off these changes without the support of governor reagan and the reagan convention staff reagan staff said they had nothing to do with these changes in fact behind the scenes of these platform drafting sessions the reagan camp and the ford camp continue their dialogue which is aimed at avoiding a bloodletting here their goal is not to have a ford versus reagan fight but to point up differences between democrats and republicans accordingly budget director james lin told the platform committee the country can't afford jimmy carter and his program indicates that the first full year of implementation of these six programs and i think fiscal year 1979 would be a fair year to use for that purpose would cost the american taxpayers at least a hundred billion dollars more remember and to further sue braden delegates president

ford sent vice president rockefeller not henry kissinger to discuss foreign policy the ford people clearly are interested in harmony which was a communist government but what no one here knows and that includes ronald reagan's personal staff is whether reagan's more conservative

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is whether reagan's more conservative supporters will go along with all this platform harmony catherine mackin nbc news kansas city what's going on here is a kind of guerrilla warfare being conducted by the reagan rebels they are practicing hit and run tactics shooting from behind trees appearing from out of nowhere trying to keep the ford people off balance it's a good show but it's too early to know whether it will succeed so far it is just skirmishing the main battle will be joined later this week possibly over some planks in the platform almost certainly over the convention's rules and that will be a hard fought battle in the judgment of a lot of us here two years ago today richard nixon in tears resigned as president of the united states and returned to his house at san clemente california where he still remains seldom seen in public and seldom heard from he has not been invited to this republican convention here in kansas city jack perkins has a report on what nixon has been doing these two years two years ago richard nixon came back to california beaten and resigned to face one more crowd i am going to continue and we are all going to continue to be very proud of the fact that we like you are californians and we're home again casa pacifica as he had named it in more peaceful times was not only the home to which he retired it itself had been one small piece of the controversies around him now it became his secluded exile it was three months before he came out and then it was to the hospital phlebitis a blood clot that endangered mr nixon's life

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mr nixon's life for several days before finally recuperating he was permitted to leave again and go home he was seen out and about but rarely teams to president fitzsimmons took him golfing this was october of last year thank you where are you from i'm from mexico mexico yeah oh yes thank you bye and then one more surprise mr nixon boarding a chinese airplane for a trip to china a nation where he was still held in great favor this summer once more the long beach hospital pat nixon having suffered a stroke beyond these limited public moments mr nixon has been writing his memoirs and beyond that not much is known that is how richard nixon has wanted it to be jack perkins nbc news los angeles so history moves on for both parties john nixon will be something of an embarrassment for the republicans this time and whereas they usually honor past presidents he will not appear in the hall but four years ago the democrats a great many of them anyway did not want to hang lyndon johnson's picture in the hall as they always so they hung it in a back corner in the dark where you could barely see it and where television could not get a picture of it and they knew it well you know it's interesting the democrats usually have uh disputatious conventions the only quiet one they have had in the last 16 years was the 1964 convention when lyndon johnson was nominated for the presidency he was in the white house the only difficult year the republicans have had however in all these years was 1964 when barry goldwater sees control of the party what do we see this year a quiet democratic convention we may see an unruly republican one nbc

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we may see an unruly republican one nbc news will cover it all and david and i will be back tomorrow night reported from the kemper arena in kansas city missouri here are john chancellor and david brinkley good evening from the convention hall today six days before the republicans meet here one of the political marvels of modern times is that still no one knows who will be nominated at this late hour ford and reagan are still dodging and weaving and trying for small scores and small advantages today in the rules committee hearing the reagan squad tried to get a rule stopped and failed at that but succeeded in showing they are still in the game john hart was there watching all this and he tells what happened what they were fighting about was whether this convention should order delegates to obey their state laws 19 states freeze some 900 delegates here to the outcome of their primaries regardless of the delegate's personal feelings reagan's lawyer said it's an insult to law abiding people to tell them to obey the law it seems somewhat redundant if that insulting to

insert this admittedly valid principle in the convention rules reagan has almost twice as many delegates bound to him as ford does and the reagan argument is that ford is more afraid his delegates will switch if they have the chance apparently the ford uh campaign does not trust the ford delegates i trust for delegates reagan delegates and uncommitted delegates maybe the ford campaign doesn't trust the reagan delegates well that may be true but this rule wouldn't wouldn't affect that it seems not to trust its own delegates and that's i think kind of sad the rule cuts down on the opportunity for mischief such as rebellious delegates refusing to vote to force a second ballot the new rule says their votes will be recorded anyway whether or not they are cast this means one uncommitted delegate from north carolina will have to vote for nobody now the people of my state

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for nobody now the people of my state uh voted percentage that that said this that so many said we want reagan so that gave him 28 of our delegates a certain percentage said we want president ford that gave him 25 delegates and a certain percentage of the republican voters in my state said hell we don't want any one of them and they they were given one delegate and that's me [Music] reagan lost in a temporary committee salted with a forward majority next week he will fight again in a convention committee more evenly divided where he has a better chance the thing is the reagan people say this rule doesn't really matter at this convention that it won't get anybody the nomination so what they are doing is saying we are still here and when push comes we can shove john hart nbc news kansas city that he was hard at work today split up into various subcommittees one of them was dealing with the rights of women here's a report these ten women and four men comprise the most conservative of the seven writing subcommittees of the republican platform committee what this means is that they could come out against the equal rights amendment for women which president ford favors and ronald reagan opposes and they may support a constitutional amendment against abortion today phyllis schlafly an anti-era spokesperson attacked both president and mrs ford for their support of some women's activities if you take a stand against era you can neutralize the public resentment that exists today against president and mrs gerald ford because of their intimate involvement with the radical women's lib movement kansas senator robert dole who's on president ford's list of possible vice presidential running mates gave one of the strongest statements favoring a constitutional amendment against abortion and the language is this we oppose the

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and the language is this we oppose the widespread practice of abortion on demand as well as the use of federal funds to pay for abortions we protest the supreme court's intrusion of the family structure through its denial of parents rights to guide their minor children we favor a constitutional amendment so that the people may resolve these issues on the other side the chairperson of planned parenthood told the subcommittee public opinion polls show more republicans support abortion than any other voting group their researchers found that 66 percent of democrats and 76 percent of republicans agree that the right of a woman to have an abortion should be left entirely up to the woman and her doctor there was some talk here today that president ford might not object to a plank in the platform that gives general support to a constitutional amendment against abortion which of course would be a change of position for the president a change that would please most of ronald reagan's most conservative supporters a white house official said it would all depend on how the anti-abortion plank is phrased but it is possible the president could support it cassie while you're there could we put a couple of questions to you you've said rebels at this convention can do you mean by that people who are not controlled by the reagan forces and the foreign forces yes uh this is a it was my way of describing them some might call them a rump group but they are reaganites many of them from north carolina some from idaho some may be from texas but mostly from north carolina and they just aren't satisfied well mainly with ronald reagan's choice of schweiker as a running mate and also they by implication by what they're doing here and the way they're operating on this platform they aren't satisfied with the way ronald reagan is carrying on the fight for some of the things they're most interested in like the panama canal

and era and abortion and dayton and rhodesia cassie if if they don't like schweicher whom do they want have they said well uh i could name you one name that one of them gave to me about a week ago and that was uh congressman senator james buckley from new york was of course uh a conservative

00:38:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hw6MpKqsOSY&t=2280s)

new york was of course uh a conservative with very good credentials uh cassie how many do you think there are of these um independent-minded delegates well right now on the platform committee uh maybe 40 45 uh people who are meeting with this group of uh rebels from north carolina if you will uh but there there is a larger number in the convention as a whole when it gets here who possibly could ally with them depending on how things go some estimates run as high as 800 or 900 and i even heard one by someone who works in the president ford committee that perhaps maybe even a thousand that is to say people who might relate to what these uh rebels from north carolina are doing and possibly could become involved in their effort to modify the platform or perhaps even oppose schweiker as a vice presidential running mate if it got that far president ford is choosing a candidate for vice president pretty much the way jimmy carter did dropping lots of names asking personal and financial information taking care in these preliminaries to see that a suitable mix of races and sexes is included at last count 13 prominent republicans said yes they were being considered all right in fact if any well-placed republican under 85 is not being considered he or she has not seen fit to cesa it's a lot of platitudes and empty talk but we heard some very plain and blunt talk here today from the secretary of the treasury william simon simon is worried about the future of the republican party and here is part of an extraordinary statement he made today to the platform committee too many voters see the gop not as a party but as a narrow vested interest a barely disguised front for big corporations bankers in the chamber of commerce unfortunately this misconception is as potent as it is false even our traditional base constituency of skilled workers farmers white-collar workers business professional people

00:40:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hw6MpKqsOSY&t=2400s)

professional people the expanded american middle class that covers such a broad social and economic share of our population has been severely shaken by watergate and our failure which of course is due in large measure to overwhelming democratic congressional opposition to fully match our domestic policy to our political rhetoric during eight years in the white house you know david simon is right in one sense the republican party is regarded as the party of business because it was so good for business in the closing years of the last century when the american industrial potential was expanded a hundred fold um i think it's a justified identification it was then i wonder if it'll serve them very well politically now though because the world the country has changed so much as simon said there's still a place for the republican party among middle-class middle-income people who need that kind well we'll be hearing more about this as we continue our convention coverage from kansas city and until tomorrow night for david brinkley and me and the rest of us good night rachel ballot was raised here at the republican convention today senator james buckley of new york a noted conservative said he would allow his name to be placed in presidential nomination if in his words that would help free up the convention with the contest for the nomination very close a certain number of votes for buckley could mean that neither gerald ford nor ronald reagan would have enough delegates for a first ballot victory and that indeed would free up the convention one of gerald ford's men tried to talk buckley out of it ronald reagan's people did not seem displeased since reagan has less to lose and more to gain if it goes into extra ballots brian ross covered buckley's announcement senator buckley says all he has done so far is to leave the door open for a group of reagan supporters who want to

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group of reagan supporters who want to put his name in nomination at the convention buckley says the people promoting his candidacy want to stop a first ballot victory for ford or reagan i would say this that i'm uh have a growing concern that there are people in both camps the reagan and ford camps who might want to vote for the other side who feel locked in the situation has changed dramatically since the early conventions are rather the early primaries i say i have made no decision in the matter and i would make a

decision to uh allow my name to be placed in nomination only if i felt that in so doing i could contribute to the interest of the national interest into the party interest by helping to free up the convention so that the outcome will represent the free mature a judgment of a majority of the delegates in kansas city buckley says he will make a decision this weekend whether to let his name be entered in nomination a decision that could make all present delegate counts meaningless brian ross nbc news new york the reagan squad says with hands over their hearts that buckley coming into the race was not a devious plot to stop ford and force a second ballot senator helms of north carolina says yes he did talk to buckley himself and urge him to enter but without reagan's knowledge in fact he says when helms called reagan to tell him about it reagan's response was quote gosh unquote don oliver has looked into this and here's what he has found for days the reagan chieftains have been gathering at the headquarters hotel plotting strategies bringing surprises and looking for more to keep their candidates chances alive but the reagan people deny they were participants in the surprise involving senator buckley reagan's campaign manager john sears admitted he

[00:44:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hw6MpKqsOSY&t=2640s)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hw6MpKqsOSY&t=2640s)

campaign manager john sears admitted he heard about the buckley move on monday said he didn't know what prompted it and deny that campaign chairman senator paul laxalt had talked with buckley before this afternoon wait a little bit well if he has they must have been uh just within the last hour or so uh and uh mr laxalt uh certainly was not calling to discourage him if they did speak about it uh i have not personally talked to mr buckley about this uh neither is governor reagan uh we have not encouraged anybody to get in the race uh and uh if they do as uh for their own that's that's uh part of their own decision making sears said he wasn't unhappy about buckley being involved he said repeatedly it would probably hurt president ford more than reagan a good tactic to keep the waters muddy while they decide what to do next don oliver nbc news at the reagan headquarters in kansas city if senator buckley does allow his name to be placed before the convention he might expect to pick up some some votes from his own state delegation new york nbc news spoke to 30 new york delegates this afternoon all of whom had been listed as favoring gerald ford not one of them after receiving the news that they might be able to vote for buckley said they would vote for him everyone is sticking with ford but there were other reactions among the republicans here in kansas city and john hart has that story the leader of the buckley brigade is senator jesse helms of north carolina who's mad at ford for being ford and matted reagan for choosing schweiker and now helms claims the reagan people are mad at him i'm getting some hard looks from some of my friends in the reagan camp because i'm saying nice things about buckley coat because they they don't like this if you talk to governor reagan about this punitive buckley candidacy or whatever it is and what are his views well i talked to governor reagan monday night and i mentioned it and uh and he he said gosh

[00:46:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hw6MpKqsOSY&t=2760s)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hw6MpKqsOSY&t=2760s)

uh and he he said gosh buckley state chairman dick rosenbaum said more than gosh he told buckley to stop it or he might lose the state party's enthusiasm for buckley's re-election to the u.s senate my advice is to withdraw or well i didn't put an or on it because i have a feeling that he saw the implications in what i was saying i mean he knows where i'm not brand new in this business well it's uh with my implications are that this will be counterproductive to the possible success of his uh aspirations to be to be reelected to the united states senate but at the moment buckley is sitting in new york ignoring them all as his name booms out across kansas city the sound of distant thunder from the rebel right john hart nbc news kansas city the reagan squad tends to think buckley will take votes away from ford and the ford squad thinks he will take votes away from reagan at the white house this afternoon ron nessen of the ford squad said quote that clinches it that really locks it up for the president it means that buckley will take votes away from reagan kind of issue that makes conservative republicans work harder on the platform david a substantial number of conservative republicans think ronald reagan is just fine if only he were a little more conservative and they want a hard line in the platform on cuba defense amnesty gun control national health the panama canal senator helms of north carolina seems to speak for them bob hager has a report on what this is all about this is the so-called rump group of reagan delegates meeting informally last night hardcore conservatives

disturbed because they feel ronald reagan isn't fighting hard enough for conservative principles in the platform they've been getting together late each night discussing strategy people like former congressman thomas curtis of missouri contrast it was the democrat platform from the standpoint of making television

00:48:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hw6MpKqsOSY&t=2880s)

from the standpoint of making television to get through but the man behind the group is north carolina's senator jesse helms helm spoke to the group last night just an hour after he flew into kansas city now you may not know it but you are attracting nationwide attention and support my telephones have been ringing all day long republicans are calling from all over the country just saying in effect god bless those people who are standing up for principle down in kansas city also last night two reagan campaign staff people attended the rump meeting by invitation peter hannaford and dr martin anderson it was the first time reagan's staff had been present at one of the sessions today these delegates say they finally have the blessing of the reagan campaign organization but only the blessing they still say they aren't getting any formal help or direction robert hager nbc news kansas city ballot was raised here at the republican convention today senator james buckley of new york a noted conservative said he would allow his name to be placed in presidential nomination if in his words that would help free up the convention with the contest for the nomination very close a certain number of votes for buckley could mean that neither gerald ford nor ronald reagan would have enough delegates for a first ballot victory and that indeed would free up the convention one of gerald ford's men tried to talk buckley out of it ronald reagan's people did not seem displeased since reagan has less to lose and more to gain if it goes into extra ballots brian ross covered buckley's announcement senator buckley says all he has done so far is to leave the door open for a group of reagan supporters who want to put his name in nomination at the convention buckley says the people promoting his candidacy want to stop a first ballot victory for ford or reagan i would say this that i'm uh have a growing concern

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have a growing concern that there are people in both camps are the reagan and ford camps who might want to vote for the other side who feel locked in the situation has changed dramatically since the early conventions are rather the early primaries i as i say i have made no decision in the matter and i would make a decision to allow my name to be placed in nomination only if i felt that in so doing i could contribute to the interest of the national uh interest into the party interest by helping to free up the convention so that the outcome will represent the free mature a judgment of a majority of the delegates in kansas city buckley says he will make a decision this weekend whether to let his name be entered in nomination a decision that could make all present delegate counts meaningless ryan ross nbc news new york the reagan squad says with hands over their hearts that buckley coming into the race was not a devious plot to stop ford and force a second ballot senator helms of north carolina says yes he did talk to buckley himself and urge him to enter but without reagan's knowledge in fact he says when helms called reagan to tell him about it reagan's response was quote gosh unquote don oliver has looked into this and here's what he has found for days the reagan chieftains have been gathering at the headquarters hotel plotting strategies bringing surprises and looking for more to keep their candidates chances alive but the reagan people deny they were participants in the surprise involving senator buckley reagan's campaign manager john sears admitted he heard about the buckley move on monday said he didn't know what prompted it and denied that campaign chairman senator paul laxalt had talked with buckley before this afternoon wait a little bit well if he has they must have been just within the last hour or so

00:52:02 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hw6MpKqsOSY&t=3122s)

and uh mr laxalt uh certainly was not calling to discourage him if they did speak about it uh i have not personally talked to mr buckley about this uh neither is governor reagan uh we have not encouraged anybody to get in the race and if they do that for their own uh that's that's part of their own decision making sears said he wasn't unhappy about buckley being involved he said repeatedly it would probably hurt president ford more than reagan a good tactic to keep the waters muddy while they decide what to do next

don oliver nbc news at the reagan headquarters in kansas city if senator buckley does allow his name to be placed before the convention he might expect to pick up some some votes from his own state delegation new york nbc news spoke to 30 new york delegates this afternoon all of whom had been listed as favoring gerald ford not one of them after receiving the news that they might be able to vote for buckley said they would vote for him everyone is sticking with ford but there were other reactions among the republicans here in kansas city and john hart has that story the leader of the buckley brigade is senator jesse helms of north carolina who's mad at ford for being ford and matted reagan for choosing schweiker and now helms claims the reagan people are mad at him i'm getting some hard looks from some of my friends in the reagan camp because i'm saying nice things about buckley coat because they they don't like this if you talk to governor reagan about this punitive buckley candidacy or whatever it is and what are his views well i talked to governor reagan monday night and i mentioned it and and he he said gosh buckley state chairman dick rosenbaum said more than gosh he told buckley to stop it or he might lose the state party's enthusiasm for buckley's re-election to the us senate my advice is to withdraw

[00:54:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hw6MpKqsOSY&t=3241s)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hw6MpKqsOSY&t=3241s)

my advice is to withdraw or well i didn't put an oar on it because i have a feeling that he saw the implications in what i was saying i mean he knows where i'm not brand new in this business well it's uh with my implications are that this will be counterproductive to the possible success of his uh aspirations to be to be reelected to the united states senate but at the moment buckley is sitting in new york ignoring them all as his name booms out across kansas city the sound of distant thunder from the rebel right john hart nbc news kansas city the reagan squad tends to think buckley will take votes away from ford and the ford squad thinks he will take votes away from reagan at the white house this afternoon ron nessen of the ford squad said quote that clinches it that really locks it up for the president it means that buckley will take votes away from reagan john jimmy carter will stay close to home the week during the republicans meet in this hall presumably taking a look now and then at the man he'll be running against in the fall and then he'll hit the road for california his press secretary recalling that carter lost the california primary said today his strength is not so great in the west today carter was speaking to the convention of the american bar association in atlanta and judy woodruff of our staff was there carter told the 3500 lawyers that the nation has failed to maintain standards of morality and justice in this post-watergate era he said some politicians are still fighting to keep the government from being more open and honest carter said the regulatory agencies have become dumping grounds for political cronies and he said scandal has spread through other parts of government if i become president i'll never turn my back on official misdeeds i intend to take a new broom to washington and to do everything possible to sweep the house of government clean specific improvements carter

[00:56:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hw6MpKqsOSY&t=3360s)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hw6MpKqsOSY&t=3360s)

clean specific improvements carter mentioned were public financing of congressional campaigns and minimum secrecy in government combined with maximum privacy for citizens some changes were the same as those he brought up two days ago in a speech to a ralph nader consumer group carter often says his southern support is as solid as a rock but his consumer speech has evidently provoked the first significant break in broad support he's had among southern editorial writers today the columbus inquirer the newspaper for georgia's second largest city ran an editorial pointing out carter's liberal stands on issues including postcard voter registration strong consumer protection and government created jobs it says these positions will cost carter votes in the south and may even cause him to lose several southern states especially if his opponent is ronald reagan this appears to be the first critical review carter's gotten in his native south and it's especially significant coming from a newspaper that has been a big carter booster judy woodruff nbc news atlanta senator buckley enters the republican lists here as a presidential nominee i think that could do two things that i can think of one is i think as you pointed out earlier he could pick up some conservatives who were mad at reagan because he picked a liberal spiker but i think buckley could also serve as a safe haven for delegates who aren't sure who's going to win on the first ballot and if enough of them should support a buckley candidacy they can hide in there and make sure there's a second ballot like hiding behind a hedge waiting to see what happens it really is another possibility i've thought about and i'm not don't make this a

prediction by any means if uh if buckley enters and if he does at all well on the first ballot it could turn out that those reagan delegates reagan is nominated those reagan delegates who don't like swacker could nominate buckley for vice president it would i would think for them be a strong ticket to conservatives from the two biggest

00:58:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hw6MpKqsOSY&t=3481s)

to conservatives from the two biggest states in the union california new york one the new one being a conservative no no republican could object to no republican conservative could object to and they might see his very strong ticket and is a way out of voting for swagger whom they don't like in any case we'll see that's it for tonight and for john and me and all of us here thank you and good night as of today none of the counts of delegates made by news organizations give president ford enough delegates for a first ballot victory he is close in all the counts ahead of reagan in all the counts but he hasn't yet locked it up today word was circulating here that the mississippi delegation may be preparing to divide up its votes and perhaps give a majority to mr ford but that could be dependent on some kind of promise from the white house that the president would choose a conservative as a running mate talk of a liberal running mate has angered some influential mississippians as far as senator james buckley of new york is concerned his announcement that he might let his name be placed in presidential nomination has as far as we can tell produced no defections from either the ford or reagan camps richard hunt has had a look at senator buckley [Music] when james buckley was elected to the senate in 1970 it was considered a political accident he was the candidate of the new york conservative party which had never won an election but he had president nixon's support against the republican candidate who was liberal and against the democrat who was not well known this year senator buckley is running for re-election and he was out looking for votes again today he has a fight for the republican nomination in a primary contest with congressman peter piser and several strong and well-known candidates are running for the democratic nomination

01:00:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hw6MpKqsOSY&t=3601s)

democratic nomination today he wasn't campaigning for president he was running for the senate i am not pursuing any other office but by the same token as i explained yesterday serious people came to me and asked me not to shut the door closed i'm respecting their wishes but this is the office that i have my mind on this is the office i'm campaigning on and i haven't allowed any other developments in the last few days to deflect me for two seconds worth from the from my re-election campaign my eye is on the senate while buckley's running for the senate it doesn't hurt him a bit to have his name mentioned as a presidential possibility he gets his picture on television and his name in the papers that's why some new yorkers suspect that there's a lot less to parker's presidential maneuver than meets the eye richard hunt nbc news garden city long island on the other hand there are those here in kansas city who feel that buck city a white house staff member is passing out copies of some old memos they show senator jesse helms of north carolina and other republican conservatives two years or more ago were plotting a third party if this convention did not produce a candidate conservative enough to suit them john hart has the details on one more of these swirling exotic maneuvers here at the republican convention [Music] president ford's operators are making available documents showing senator jesse helms was involved in research on a third party more than a year ago one memo from helm's conservative group pays senator buckley a compliment but does not connect him to any third party movement harry dent ford's southern manager was happy to interpret the documents differently to me it sounds as though there's an effort here to try to derail the president's first ballot nomination and i don't think that's possible second thing it appears to me that uh there's a launching of a third-party conservative candidacy by people who want to destroy the republican party in order to come up with a new party this year

01:02:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hw6MpKqsOSY&t=3720s)

with a new party this year so it seems to me that what the four people are doing yourself among others is to discredit buckley's candidacy is really part of a third-party movement not affecting this convention i think that that's what it really gets down to i don't think it will affect this convention in fact i think that if anything it will

help the president because when people at this convention come to realize that a small group here wants to overthrow this party for a new party right after this convention i think you'll see them get together and give the president a cascading and resounding victory this convention four days ago the white house asked senator buckley to join ford's vice presidential list he declined now the ford strategy seems to be to wed buckley to a destructive movement in the public mind at least so that he will want to back down john hart nbc news kansas city reported from the camper arena in kansas city missouri here are john chancellor and david brinkley good evening from the convention hall in kansas city the ford squad has run down the column of figures again added them up and issued a claim to more than enough delegates to win on the first ballot and they say several uncommitted delegates promise that as soon as they step off their airplanes in kansas city they will announce they have decided to vote for ford while the reagan squad disagreed said they had enough votes for the first ballot and said nobody would be sure until then anyway here is fred francis vermont 18 for ford virginia 13 for ford james baker the president's delegate hunter said his new delegate total shows the president has five more votes than are needed for a first ballot nomination west virginia 20 for forward eight for reagan the state by state breakdown reveals the president is counting heavily on 20

01:04:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hw6MpKqsOSY&t=3840s)

counting heavily on 20 uncommitted votes from west virginia baker said he has assurances that the west virginians will vote for ford baker is confident of a first ballot nomination but just in case that does not happen he says the president's second ballot strategy will produce a victory we don't see our our drop off on a second ballot exceeding five to eight or nine votes you really take north carolina and and uh kentucky where they and maryland where they pick up strength and you offset that with our games in indiana in michigan uh and in uh in one or two other states the delegate count will change in the next few days but right now the nbc news delegate count shows the president with 114 votes 16 votes short of the nomination fred francis nbc news kansas city john sears the man who was running things here for ronald reagan responded to all this today at a press conference our man don oliver was there reagan's campaign manager john sears heard the four delegates read to him by a reporter at a news conference sears often disagreed pennsylvania 84 for them 10 for you 9 uncommitted well again we'd argue with the 84 uh the projections in pennsylvania from the ford side have come down from 95 to 93 to 90 and uh now we're down to 84 and we've argued with all of them and they've all been proven wrong we still think that figure's wrong sears wouldn't give a delegate total of his own but said again reagan would have 1140 votes on the first ballot wednesday night our observations on that continue to be what they have been in the past that the numbers that they carry uh for themselves in some of the larger states in the northeast most particularly uh new york pennsylvania and new jersey uh we feel uh contain soft support that

01:06:02 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hw6MpKqsOSY&t=3962s)

we feel uh contain soft support that will produce delegates for us uh by wednesday night sears continued to refuse to release a state by state total of his own delegates but he told reporters here to wait until there is a procedural vote on the floor of the convention then he said people will find out that reagan has more support than he's being given credit for don oliver nbc news kansas city was the main scene of political contention here in kansas city today and the ford campaign won a significant test there this afternoon the subject was the panama canal which has been a campaign issue for months between the president and ronald reagan and by a 55 to 43 vote the platform committee adopted language offered by the president's operatives on the wording of the platform as it applies to the canal the language was compromised language but the vote was a victory for the ford people catherine mackin now brings us up to date on the platform so far the republican platform as it is now shaping up as a decidedly different document from the democratic platform especially on domestic issues it takes these stands for republicans it opposes compulsory national health insurance it endorses efforts for constitutional amendments against abortion and busing and in favor of school prayer it refuses to attack oil company profits and it strongly opposes wage price controls the equal rights amendment for women continues to be a controversy on a close vote conservative women were defeated in efforts to keep support of the era out of the platform now they plan to take it to the convention floor for a fight even though they do not have the support of president ford or ronald reagan they say they will win no way of

course we're not going to get b we've had two rounds we won the first one they won the second one now the third round is coming up it'll be on the floor of the convention on foreign policy the white house beat back the most conservative position on the panama canal but the platform retains treaty language that the united states has jurisdictional rights in the panama

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jurisdictional rights in the panama canal zone as if it were the sovereign on other foreign policy matters the platform calls for sustained growth and defense a major shipbuilding program for the navy and development and deployment of the b-1 bomber and the cruise missile it will surprise no one who follows politics that all sides here the ford white house the reagan campaign and the ultra conservative reagan supporters all are claiming the platform is a victory for their point of view catherine mackin nbc news kansas city news kansas city now there is a move here at the convention to dump swagger or if ford is nominated and offers a liberal for his vice president to dump him to refuse to accept any candidate for vice president unless he is a certified conservative pastorized any traces of liberal bacteria boiled out of him senator jesse helms of north carolina is working on this and he has discussed it with robert hager [Music] ever since he got here senator helms has been in perpetual motion about a dozen of his staff employees and supporters have organized a rump caucus of conservative delegates here and they've lobbied in the platform and rules bodies for conservative positions today elm said he'd like to see an independent move to name a conservative vice presidential nominee regardless of uh any uh presidential nominees recommendations i think that the committee ought to be at the uh the convention or to be uh absolutely free to nominate anybody the convention pleases helms is particularly anxious to dump senator schweiker if reagan is the nominee but he would also undertake the fight if president ford is nominated and names a liberal running mate yesterday the white house passed around a memorandum suggesting helms might really be trying to split the republicans and start a third party helms denies it

01:10:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hw6MpKqsOSY&t=4200s)

and start a third party helms denies it i am not participating and uh there's no way on earth that i can see that i would be interested in uh participating it depends on the uh circumstances but i cannot anticipate the circumstances growing out of this convention in which uh i would not as strongly as i can support the republican ticket and if helms seems to be operating on his own here in kansas city it's worth noting that he talked just yesterday with ronald reagan on the telephone at great length and that there are indications that helms will play a formal role on the convention floor on reagan's behalf robert hager nbc news kansas city also the pittsburgh press reports from kansas city that the conservative pressure on reagan has become so heavy that he will ask swacker to withdraw reagan's office denied it john the idea of a presidential run by new york senator james buckley is getting him in more hot water with republicans at home he's a member of the conservative party john the idea of a presidential run by new york senator james buckley is getting him in more hot water with republicans at home he's a member of the conservative party who runs as a republican as well but this year richard rosenbaum the new york state republican chairman overcame liberal opposition and got the republicans to support buckley's bid for re-election to the senate now rosenbaum feels cheated and he's not sure he says he can trust buckley here's some of what he told john hart today in the convention hall mr rosenbaum you have been personally embarrassed by this yes i have the state committee gave senator buckley 99 of its uh support uh we understood that he was going to remain uh neutral in the uh presidential primary uh i feel that while some might interpret what he's done is uh not connected with the presidential primary that would be the most naive assessment that anyone could make

01:12:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hw6MpKqsOSY&t=4320s)

assessment that anyone could make and he has by virtue of his move uh thrust himself right in the middle of the presidential situation and in my judgment uh that's the breach of uh a moral commitment uh and uh i think it's wrong what is your forgiveness level at this point very very low and i'm reaching it very rapidly as an indication of how the buckley maneuver is being received here the federation of young republicans is in a

quandary about a ceremony and scheduled for buckley next tuesday he was to have been given an award and to have responded with a speech but some delegates have complained wondering if the young republicans were doing this to support a buckley candidacy they are not and their solution may be to give him the award but ask him not to talk after many months and a lot of money the ford and reagan squads are about set up here for next week's convention with facilities as complex as if they were planning another invasion of normandy they've even agreed not to tamper with each other's telephones which might lead some to believe they don't trust each other marilyn berger has explored all of this [Music] it's been seven months in preparation down to the minutest detail young volunteers a thousand of them painted signs for what is supposed to look like a spontaneous demonstration when they weren't painting signs they were stuffing president ford shopping bags every delegate and alternate will get one his own straw skimmer a ford pen or pencil buttons banners and bumper stickers a newsletter will be printed here 10 000 copies to be distributed to delegates every day starting at five am a hundred and thirty four campaign workers were flown in on a chartered jet from washington some of them pay their own way campaign funds are low the president ford committee chose the crown center hotel

01:14:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hw6MpKqsOSY&t=4440s)

crown center hotel they say it's presidential but the presidential suite on the 18th floor was damaged by water in a recent storm this morning they were still repainting and replacing the carpet the ford command center for the convention is in this trailer outside kemper arena a bank of telephones is wired to 12 ford phones scattered around the convention floor manned by regional coordinators the reagan forces have a phone in every delegation to augment their 12 lines the ford people will also use republican national committee numbers it said there's an agreement between the reagans and the fords not to tamper with each other's lines but just to be sure the ford lines which run right under the reagan trailer are encased in steel in addition to the telephones a roving ford team will be on the convention floor the men will wear baseball caps for identification and carry walkie talkies for communication the ford committee also has a suite above the convention floor where key delegates will get vip treatment and a lot of friendly persuasion jim baker is ford's chief delegate counter he'll be directing the operation in the trailer i will continue to have uh as far as our delegate operation is concerned a both a persuasion function and a communications function we'll we'll be talking to delegates the uncommitteds in an effort to continue to bring them over to our side uh we'll also be the liaison between the president and his floor manager uh senator griffin when it comes to the floor of course it's a matter of communication and saying this is a time when we hope that you'll support president ford this is our position the word is spread so the regional whips to the state whips to the delegates and uh then the time the the test of course is when they call the role we see whether the votes are there if the nomination were to be decided by the number of posters instead of the number of delegates it would be no contest everywhere you look there are four posters very few reminders of reagan in fact

01:16:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hw6MpKqsOSY&t=4560s)

very few reminders of reagan in fact kansas city looks like ford city those of course are only the trappings but they are signs of an enormous effort ford is an incumbent who has yet to sew up the nomination and he'll be breaking precedent by arriving in town the day before the opening gavel he says it's to promote party unity his schedule suggests it's to promote gerald ford marilyn berger nbc news at ford headquarters in the crown center hotel john you know what we have here this time is a convention convention that is one that is to do what will do what a convention is supposed to do choose a nominee the primaries worked for the democrats and chose their nominees so when it came when their time came they hardly needed a convention they did the primaries did not work for the republicans so they will choose him here well it's interesting because people talk about the uh the lack of utility of certain conventions and certain convention practices the point is that the primaries didn't work for the republicans this year as they worked for the democrats and uh this convention is going to have to decide and that's what a convention is for david and i will be back with a pre-convention special on sunday night at ten o'clock at nine o'clock central time until we have that one hour special on sunday night good night for nbc news good evening from our studio high atop the republican convention hall the nomination is still unsettled president ford has a pretty good lead and claims to have it

firmly in his grip but he was not behaving like a man as confident as he says he is on the contrary he was seeing one delegation after another and making what amounted to campaign speeches the mississippi delegation has the largest number of officially uncommitted delegates in the hall and they could settle it when they are ready as yet they are not ready for that but they have made another deal here are

01:18:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hw6MpKqsOSY&t=4681s)

but they have made another deal here are two reports what happened under the stairs was that harry dan ford southern manager and force manager in the mississippi delegation asked park reed the chairman of the mississippi delegation to have a caucus today so they could break the unit rule and let the votes fall where they may clark reed refused later this afternoon a number of uncommitted delegates were taken to president ford suite here in the crown center hotel and while they were waiting to see president ford clark reed along with the other uncommitted delegates agreed that the mississippi delegation should go along with the foreign forces on all procedural matters including the sears amendment on the vice presidency as a result the ford forces have backed off trying to force a break in the unit rule that's basically what was what was agreed to the day and uh if clark reed and and mrs todd who is the other member of the rules committee of mississippi uh both said that they will go with whatever the rules committee does on the floor that satisfies us tremendously so with the mississippi delegation informally pledged to back president ford on all procedural matters the poor people have agreed to back off on trying to break the unit rule for the moment so long as that agreement holds john hart nbc news the crown center hotel [Music] an early caucus earlier the pressure from ford operatives to get the mississippi delegation to commit itself today upset mississippi chairman clark reed who is a ford supporter but wanted to hold off a vote until tomorrow what what's the value of it i mean what kind of pressures on you as the delegation returned to its hotel after the morning session the people who run ford's mississippi campaign claimed to have 29 written pledges and six private pledges from the 30 delegates and 30 alternates the ford people made a formal request for a vote why do you very much want to take a vote now well i want to go ahead and put the president over the top

01:20:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hw6MpKqsOSY&t=4800s)

president over the top the only thing i can assume is that they they really don't have the count that they say they have and it would be some sort of a psychological impetus for them to be able to say we've got x votes in this in this delegation whatever that number of votes might be in the end the pressure for a vote this afternoon failed depriving president ford of the votes he had hoped would lock up his nomination today brian ross nbc news with the mississippi delegation new york's conservative republican senator james buckley decided today not to have his name put into nomination as a presidential candidate thereby ending one of the stranger episodes of this convention last week buckley said he might allow his name to be placed before the convention if it would free up the nominating process nobody knew quite what that meant or what effect it would have and now buckley is out of it robert hager has more on the story buckley met with those urging him to run and a few hours later decided against it for the past week i seem to have found myself in the center of a great deal of speculation i have not been a candidate for president i am not a candidate and i'm here to state that i will not become a candidate for anything but re-election to the senate there was a lot of speculation about why buckley let himself get involved to begin with some thought his candidacy might help ronald reagan some thought it would please conservatives who don't like senator spyker any event it didn't work buckley had very little support president ford's convention floor leader robert griffin welcomed the development we're pleased i'm not surprised uh jim's a great guy and i think you did the right thing well what does that mean in terms of president ford's chances here the rest of the week just to move one of these yeah this removes one of the unknowns uh we all we've got a pretty good count all of a sudden we've got another candidate for president so you've got to go back around the horn again this eliminates that confusion and chaos his name even conservative senator jesse

01:22:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hw6MpKqsOSY&t=4921s)

his name even conservative senator jesse helms who may have engineered the buckley candidacy took buckley's decision in stride i think jim probably made the right decision on this thing with that the buckley boomlet was finished almost as suddenly as it had started and some people still wondered what it was all about robert hager nbc news kansas city the crown center hotel here in kansas city gerald ford has spent the day trying on the one hand to persuade uncommitted delegates to vote for him and on the other to hold on to the delegates who are committed for him the four people say they've got the votes to nominate their man and the president's floor manager senator griffin says the only problem is holding on to the lead they've got usually a president of mr ford's position is less active at this stage of things but not mr ford marilyn berger reports even before he left the hotel this morning mr ford did a little campaigning with a pep talk to delegates from hawaii his first full day here in kansas city was full of politicking an effort to win over uncommitted delegates and to secure those already with him the president also repaid a debt to a professional cheering squad of a thousand young people they're called the presidentials an organization of young boys and girls who pay their own way to get here but are being housed and fed by the ford campaign organization their job is to go wherever they are assigned to cheer wow what a meeting in the last two years we've healed america at home and in the last two years we've achieved peace abroad and we're going to keep it abroad you want peace at home and you want peace throughout this world i'm on your side

01:24:04 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hw6MpKqsOSY&t=5044s)

the american people especially our youth want to help the economy with jobs i'm on your side later in the day jim baker the president's chief delegate hunter announced that the president had lost one and gained five delegates we now show the president with one hundred and thirty nine delegates uh governor reagan with one thousand thirty three delegates and with eighty seven delegates uh remaining uncommitted including the full thirty uh in the mississippi delegation the implication was that the game is over that mr ford has won but the president is still meeting with delegates seeking their support marilyn berger nbc news at ford headquarters at the crown center hotel north carolina a reagan delegate was saying today the swacker thing as he put it the swicker thing will take care of itself or he did not explain further but he has been talking about dumping swicker and replacing him with somebody more conservative however that stands at the moment helms had lunch today with reagan and schweiker was not at the lunch don oliver has watched the reagan headquarters all day and has a report on what is happening over there most of the indiana delegation is committed to reagan on the first ballot but if there's a second ballot some of them may effect to ford reagan was here to try to hold those votes and to urge the indiana delegation to vote for his rules change the one that would require president ford to name his running mate before the nominations reagan's own selection of richard schweikert has gotten him in hot water with a number of conservative supporters

01:26:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hw6MpKqsOSY&t=5160s)

with a number of conservative supporters reagan had lunch with some of them today including north carolina senator jesse helms and joseph coors of colorado schleicher had been invited but declined believing it was better that reagan talked to them alone reagan promised the group that his forces would seek to amend the platform to attack dayton and the helsinki conference to commend alexander solzhenitsyn they hope this will pacify the conservatives reagan's next stop a meeting with the alaska delegation who came to his hotel and waited for him for nearly an hour reagan was moving around the hotel in service elevators unseen he slipped into a meeting of the black caucus there are 74 of them here some said they were undecided and wanted the candidates to talk to them so reagan did he was not expected to get much support in his quest for delegates reagan has had to range all over the kansas city area it took him 25 minutes by motorcade to get to the virginia delegation's hotel to make his pitch and again defend his selection of striker overall what we both want and the decision was made on one basis and one only i didn't get into this race to win a convention i want to win an election and i think we can do it over and over again in these delegation meetings reagan has asked if he would accept the vice presidential nomination if he doesn't run the top spot and repeatedly he says no which is what one would expect him to say at this stage of the game but insiders in the reagan camp say that he means it that he has absolutely no desire to be vice president don oliver nbc news with reagan in

grandview missouri so after a day of some small shifts in delegate strength here is the nbc news count on how the candidates are doing gerald ford 1122 delegates which is eight short of what he needs ronald reagan 1036 94 short and 101 uncommitted delegates the last

01:28:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hw6MpKqsOSY&t=5280s)

the last remaining prices while ford is ahead he's not that far ahead by mistake or by accident his lead could drop which is why his people are taking absolutely no chances david so on the opening night of the convention neither candidate is confident enough to relax and the courting of delegates continues an uncommitted delegate from from kansas complains he's had 40 or 50 phone calls but nothing more and says he has not been offered so much as a free meal so there is a delegate waiting to be persuaded and apparently can be had for a kansas city state exxon would like to take you 300 feet below the illinois countryside to show you america's most plentiful source of energy it's coal today an affiliate of exxon is developing coal reserves for a very good reason in miami beach it was quite a different convention then the republicans had a man in the white house who was serving out the final months of his first term and looking forward remember to four more years so was his vice president a lot of the politicians who were at that miami beach convention are here in kansas city this week edwin newman has a report on some of the things these people were saying then yep the 1972 republican convention was more like a coronation with richard nixon as king and his loyal subjects the delegates shouting for four more years there were a lot of familiar faces and some of them have become more familiar since congressman gerald ford was permanent convention chairman ronald reagan was temporary chairman like the other speakers he praised the nixon policies one of the leaders of one of our

01:30:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hw6MpKqsOSY&t=5400s)

one of the leaders of one of our european allies said to me are you going to let him are you going to let president nixon be interrupted in what he is doing for if you are it will be a catastrophe for all the rest of us in all the world governor nelson rockefeller of new york nominated nixon it was the most convincing demonstration of the party unity so much in evidence throughout the convention four years earlier rockefeller had fought nixon for the nomination we need this man of action this man of accomplishments this man of experience this man of courage this man of faith in america president nixon was renominated on the first ballot by 347 votes to one for congressman paul mccloskey of california and spiral agnew was renominated for vice president in his acceptance speech the president was full of praise for agony [Music] i thought he was the best man for the job four years ago i think he is the best man for the job today and i'm not going to change my mind tomorrow the president went on to appeal for a new majority that would enable him to continue his work for world peace i ask everyone listening to me tonight democrats republicans independents to join our new majority not on the basis of the party label you wear in your lapel but on the basis of what you believe in your hearts nixon and agnew are long gone the republican party remains and the ghosts of nixon and agnew may

01:32:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hw6MpKqsOSY&t=5520s)

and the ghosts of nixon and agnew may haunt this convention and the election to come edwin newman nbc news kansas city john that something had happened only four years ago is now ancient history so much has happened since it seems like about 10 years ago really uh they're preparing now for the getting ready for the first evening session of the republican convention here in kansas city the 1976 convention that's going to begin very soon we're going to hear a lot of interesting speeches tonight including the keynote speech that will be on the air at 7 30 eastern time 6 30 central time until then and that's coming up right away good night for nbc news ford is over the top by our count he has six more votes than he needs for the nomination also today the associated press gave the president enough delegate votes for the nomination here's how it stands by our count we have been told by 1136 delegates that they are definitely committed to voting for gerald ford on the first ballot ronald reagan has 1038 delegates firmly committed to him the uncommitteds have dwindled to 85. ford's own delegate counters claimed earlier today 1142 or 12 more than needed governor arch moore

of west virginia said this morning that he thought that ford would get all of his state's uncommitted delegates and he gave the names of those who switched to ford today the individual is our mr rex bumgardner who is clarksburg west virginia uh mr ted barr of huntington west virginia mr robert harmon of kaiser west virginia mr bill loy of martinsburg west virginia bloy l.y and mayor richie rob robb of south charleston west virginia that would be 17 uh showing

01:34:02 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hw6MpKqsOSY&t=5642s)

17 uh showing uh on your accounts uh supporting the president uh eight in your accounts supporting governor reagan to make the president's day even happier the mississippi delegation decided today to vote as a block against ronald reagan's effort to change the rules on the selection of a vice presidential running mate that will come up tonight the delegation's decision is a stunning victory for gerald ford david since the delegate figures turned his way this morning president ford was persuaded the nomination was his and today he's been laughing and cracking jokes and behaving like a winner all and he thought he could get the nomination tonight without naming his vice president first tonight's vote will decide that but he is optimistic marilyn berger at the president's headquarters all day tells what is going on over there it was an optimistic president who met this morning with leaders of his campaign from around the country three more delegates today declared for mr ford it was all going his way so today the president became more visible leaving his suite at the top of the crown center hotel for a number of meetings [Music] first just downstairs to see more campaign leaders [Music] reporters rushed to record any new tidbits of information then it was on to the hilton for the illinois caucus where the president has 81 supporters but where twelve reagan delegates and eight uncommitted still needed persuading mr ford told him he was absolutely convinced the convention is moving in the right direction what's more he said he could win in the fall that jimmy carter is vulnerable that national polls show the president is narrowing the gap but that's in the future senator robert griffin the president's floor leader said today

01:36:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hw6MpKqsOSY&t=5760s)

the president's floor leader said today that he thinks that there are enough ford votes to defeat a move by the reagan people to force him to name his vice president in advance but he acknowledged it would be very close i would think that if they lost tonight that that ought to be uh a clear indication uh not only here in the convention but across the country that president ford is going to be nominated tomorrow night and it would probably even increase the uh margin by which he would be nominated of course if griffin is wrong and they lose the president could suffer some erosion of support if he were to choose a vice president unacceptable to one group or another the ford forces also face a fight on foreign policy issues in the platform much of it appears to repudiate ford administration policy as conducted by henry kissinger on this issue there appears to be some disarray some ford supporters want to write in changes others want to ignore it on the ground that the platform once written is forgotten but whatever the outcome on procedure and platform mr ford is acting like a man who's over the top it wasn't an easy climb for an incumbent but mr ford is acting like a man who is there marilyn berger nbc news at fort headquarters [Music] for ronald reagan it was one of those days he sent two show business emissaries pat boone and ephraim zembolus jr to talk to the new york delegation and the delegation gave them the gate said they were not wanted zimballus said with the laugh it was a funny feeling he said usually we get paid for appearances but they didn't want us for free here's more on reagan's day reported by kenley jones [Music] as soon as reagan left his hotel this morning he began running into ford supporters it was obviously a coordinated campaign by some ford workers to harris reagan as he began visiting state delegations

01:38:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hw6MpKqsOSY&t=5881s)

it did not appear to bother reagan he just kept moving the four delegations and all before lunch illinois louisiana oklahoma and mississippi has grown to the place at each one reagan answered questions about the proposed rule change that would require president ford to name his running mate before voting for the nomination i think that you choose the debit that's the nominee you should choose both nominees and the

only way we could think of this was the early announcement that we made we gave you three weeks and to take a look and i don't think anyone's ever been more microscopically accepted that is our our suggested numbers but this rule is not just for this election or convention it is to go down the road into the future and i see nothing wrong and i do not see i'll be very blunt i don't see it mr ford can tell us who his suggestion would be on thursday morning why he can't tell us on wednesday tonight and the reagan forces need a victory badly if they are to stop the drift of delegates to mr ford this afternoon reagan's strategist tried to make it appear that some delegates are still switching to their candidate at what originally was billed as a news conference reagan introduced a small group of delegates and one alternate but only one of the delegates actually switched support to reagan within the past few days reagan left without answering any questions from reporters tonight when the republicans adopt their convention rules there will be an interesting argument it will be this rule 16 now has two paragraphs a and b a says that nobody can be put in nomination without the support of five states b says all votes must be by roll call and all speeches for all candidates finished in 15 minutes the reagan squad now wants to add another paragraph 16 c it says each nominee must say by

01:40:03 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hw6MpKqsOSY&t=6003s)

16 c it says each nominee must say by tomorrow morning before tomorrow night's vote who we will recommend for vice president but most but not all of the reagan delegates support this most but not all of ford's delegates oppose it so the vote on this will to an extent be the first real test of their strength john hart has more on what this is all about the fort headhunters have been counting delegates on rule 16 for a day and a half now and claim they are satisfied but they are hedging head counter james baker suggesting he is weaker on the rules than on the nomination uh we've recognized all along that our vote on the procedural issues is less than our vote on the nomination and uh you i don't think that you could call this a test vote on the uh on the nomination what happens if you lose well if we lose uh we still have uh our our account on the nomination which we think is a valid count uh we're still very confident that we're gonna uh gonna win the nomination vote on wednesday night on the first ballot reagan's campaign manager john sears claims the majority of the delegates want the disclosure rule but he's hedging too on winning it there's no doubt that if after uh going through all of this that in some way uh uh the vote tonight uh demonstrated a weaker position and that is that is perceived for us uh publicly then that would be harmful are you predicting you'll get a majority on 16 i think we'll all be uh very interested tonight to see what the results of the episode suggested if he does lose on the vice presidential rule he has other tricks ready for tonight if reagan does win and ford has to name the name he could alienate enough of his own delegates to force a second ballot that is the reagan strategy and the ford fear john hart nbc news kansas city the other floor fight this evening will center on an artfully drafted reagan

01:42:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hw6MpKqsOSY&t=6121s)

center on an artfully drafted reagan challenge to the platform a proposal that language be added to the platform which amounts to an unspecific condemnation of stands taken by the ford administration in foreign affairs the language however is vague and there is a school of thought around here that the ford campaign just may finesse the issue by going along with the change on the other hand such republicans as senator hugh scott and congressman john anderson say the reagan proposal is an affront to a sitting president they want to fight catherine mackin has the details last week when the republican platform was being written the foreign policy section was the most debated and the most carefully studied of the entire platform at week's end the reagan people said they were satisfied with it but now at the 11th hour in another effort to keep alive their hopes for the nomination the reagan people are again raising the emotional issues of daetant alexander sol janitzen and the helsinki accord in an amendment to the platform the forward people don't want the new amendment in the platform but whether they will fight to keep it out or whether they will fight at all depends on the mood on the psychology on this convention floor when the amendment is offered later this evening a second amendment one that would strike from the platform some language that generally supports a constitutional amendment against abortion will be offered by a delegate from wisconsin and peckham mrs peckham thinks abortion is so controversial that republican politicians would be better off if the platform took

no position on it at all she does not have the support of either reagan or ford which means that her chances of winning are not the best catherine mackin nbc news republican presidential nomination and it looks as though the president will win our nbc news count of delegates is as follows as of now although it keeps changing in ford's favor we give ford 1175 delegates reagan with 1065 and the uncommitteds are now down to 19 delegates

01:44:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hw6MpKqsOSY&t=6240s)

delegates the president got more good news ronald reagan's chosen running mate senator richard schweiker offered to pull out because he couldn't get delegates for reagan but reagan said the odd couple would stay together marilyn berger has been with mr ford all day and as you can see in this report he feels pretty good tonight good morning the tension of the last few days had been dispelled by the votes in the convention especially the narrowly won decision that made it necessary for mr ford to name his vice president in advance this morning he greeted his campaign workers on the president ford committee it was a great night last night and it came about because of all the hard work of people like yourself not only here but all over the country it's a big step toward the result that we're going to get tonight and the more important result that we're going to get november 2nd republicans acknowledge that it will be an uphill battle to win on november second so mr ford returned to his office for a strategy session with republican governors he was still being silent however about his choice for vice president some of these governors figured in early speculation but others now seem to have the inside track there were also funds to be raised for the full campaign so the fords looked in at a thousand dollar a plate luncheon at the republican headquarters hotel he almost but didn't quite cross paths with challenger ronald reagan who arrived at the hotel before the ford's left then it was almost as if he'd already been nominated even elected [Music] but it wasn't pennsylvania avenue it was still kansas city marilyn berger nbc news kansas city [Music]

01:46:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hw6MpKqsOSY&t=6361s)

[Music] the ford squad was saying this afternoon it was all over that their months of hard work will pay off tonight if so the striking fact is that mr ford is the first incumbent president in this century who in holding on to the office had to make all this effort john also on nightly news this evening we'll hear senator schweiker and ronald reagan talking about schweiker's effort offer to drop out there's a lot of talk that senator howard baker of tennessee ronald reagan's fortunes at this convention are on the end senator jesse helms one of his supporters said today if reagan is to win he'll have to pull a rabbit out of a hat and helms added i don't see any rabbit hutches around here senator schweiker's offer to take himself out of the running as reagan's chosen running mate was just one indication of reagan's problems kenley jones has the reagan story as reagan was making his last round of delegate hunting this morning he ran into channing ford supporters [Music] we won last night he'll win again a reference to the defeat of rule 16 c which would have required president ford to name his running mate today the reagan forces lost that floor fight by more than 100 votes the pennsylvania delegation gave reagan only 14 votes on the issue about 10 less than reagan's running mate senator richard schweiker had promised senator schweiker frankly told me this morning and the number of people who had given him their word and on that bill last night he said one of them was in tears when he when he called and said he couldn't keep his word the pressure was too great now what's going to happen tonight i don't know a short time later reagan confirmed that schweiker felt so bad about his inability to draw delegate votes that he had offered to take his name off the ticket being the gentleman he is and uh fearful that perhaps he might be somehow harmful to

01:48:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hw6MpKqsOSY&t=6480s)

perhaps he might be somehow harmful to my chances uh came yes and said that he uh he would do that i declined why did you decline i declined because i think it's a matter of principle i asked him to be my running mate i made it plain to the convention delegates three weeks in advance and to all the people to this country that i had asked him to accept that position and it is a matter of principle the governor's answer to my offer did not surprise me he rejected it without hesitation [Applause] saying that we had agreed from the start that

it would be a team effort all the way and that's the way he wants it our coalition for victory continues thank you senators striker and reagan will watch the convention on television tonight together kim lee jones nbc news kansas city some members of the reagan squad were despondent seeing the end tonight but he declined to give up all day he was still visiting delegations talking them up looking for some last minute change it has after all been a long time since any candidate came so close to having enough votes but still needing only a few more the arithmetic is that a switch of one or two big states would give reagan the nomination don oliver has watched this effort all day they were still trying the reagan headhunters facing almost impossible odds needing to convince 50 or 60 delegates to turn around defect from president ford to ronald reagan meetings formal and informal went on all day in the reagan headquarters attempts were being made to break the unit rule in mississippi freeze some votes there they thought they could win some converts in new jersey but as hard as they were working they said it would be for naught the forward victory last night created a bandwagon effect for the president there's no doubt that uh the effect of losing a test vote as we did last night

01:50:02 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hw6MpKqsOSY&t=6602s)

losing a test vote as we did last night makes it a very uphill uh struggle for us to ever be nominated and makes the the odds on that longer reagan's spokesman went out to try to hold their delegations in line this the colorado caucus 26 for reagan five for ford please don't be discouraged we're going to go in there tonight we're going to put on some great training demonstrations and there is no reason in the world why we can't win because all our reagan people are going to be together tonight the ford campaign sent its emissaries to the coloradoans to smoke the peace pipe looking for party unity the people here were not hospitable why not some fireside chats by a gentleman like ronald reagan who has a record in california and can communicate with the people and might be able to collect congressmen reagan himself is apparently not as hopeful as are his supporters some ladies from utah presented him with a handmade quilt who wanted him to sign it ronald reagan president 1976. he replied this this might be a little out of date though advisers have told him the votes he needs are nearly impossible to get don oliver nbc news at reagan headquarters if reagan loses he and his supporters will have a lot of time to contemplate a campaign that came so very close to speculate about what they might have done to get another 100 or so delegates and reagan will go back to california carrying in his briefcase an acceptance speech undelivered senator howard baker of tennessee is up senator howard baker of tennessee is down if ford wins tonight he will or will not offer the vice presidency to reagan who then will or will not accept it those are the rumors those and more there are plenty of them robert hager who deserved all of them brings us up to date

01:52:02 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hw6MpKqsOSY&t=6722s)

brings us up to date baker confirmed today that as recently as yesterday white house accountants were still going over his financial records and telephoning people in tennessee asking about baker's background one small hitch developed when a newspaper reported that mrs baker daughter of the late senator everett dirksen used to have a drinking problem baker said he reported this to the president just to make sure there was a complete and thorough disclosure i also pointed out that in years past my wife had had a drinking problem from which she's recovered and i didn't think that was important to this consideration but i thought in fairness to the president i ought to tell him that so i did how do you feel about the fact that this has in the course of the campaign come out been disclosed well it's never been a secret so um i it's fine with me thank you very much i'm glad to have it out in in the open there are other names still heard in the speculation here for instance that of william ruckle's house the broncos house was at his home in tacoma washington this morning said he had no plans to come to kansas city then there's treasury secretary william simon who was here relaxing today i'm just out here briefing all the various caucuses and talking to the press and working to have my president nominated this evening which i think is going to occur and there are outside possibilities like commerce secretary elliot richardson who would very much like the job or the man who served as temporary chairman of this convention kansas senator robert dole and there are a number of other names for

one thing the president will discuss the job with ronald reagan senator baker's name is still at the top of the speculation tonight robert hager nbc news kansas city figures from the sumter county courthouse in georgia plains is in sumter county figures show jimmy carter's family properties are worth about five million dollars

01:54:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hw6MpKqsOSY&t=6841s)

worth about five million dollars that includes land housing and the peanut warehouse business brother billy's gasoline station the record also shows the family borrowed a million dollars this summer mortgaging the business the money to be used in buying peanuts when the harvest comes john in plains carter anticipated the nomination of president ford tonight and he predicted the president would give him quite a fight in the fall election here's more on that story from judy wood in plains carter anticipated the nomination of president ford tonight and he predicted the president would give him quite a fight in the fall election here's more on that story from judy woodruff after watching the republican convention on television last night carter was up this morning to visit an agricultural research station a mile from his house he arranged for reporters and photographers to go with him to watch the demonstration he had asked for of the scientific method for determining when to harvest peanuts afterwards carter talked about the republican convention my guess is that president ford will be the nominee he will be a formidable opponent and the present or wide advantage that i have in the public opinion polls is inevitably going to uh decrease i think the republicans will come out of the convention uh with unity and with alleviation of the of the disharmonies that have been part of the tough campaign conducted by by governor reagan against president ford this afternoon carter received the third in a series of briefings this week about a dozen businessmen economists and foreign policy experts and auto workers president leonard woodcock talked with him about international economics judy woodruff nbc news planes georgia there have been some great scenes at this convention one was when mrs reagan

01:56:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hw6MpKqsOSY&t=6961s)

this convention one was when mrs reagan was at one end of the hall hearing a tremendous ovation mrs ford at the other end of the hall hearing a tremendous ovation and responding by doing a few dance steps with tony orlando no one has ever seen that before and no one is likely ever to see it again carol simpson tells more they're calling it the great rivalry of the wives and it was most evident last night nancy reagan entered the convention hall to the cheers of her admirers on the floor while mrs reagan graciously acknowledged the crowd on the other side of the arena betty ford who came earlier began dancing with entertainer tony orlando and mrs ford stole the show everybody says that was unintentional the band leader claims he didn't know mrs reagan had arrived when he found out he switched the tune to california here i come but by that time the crowd was as caught up in the doings of the wives as it has been in those of their husbands throughout this convention week both mrs ford and mrs reagan have been campaigning vigorously but with very different styles mrs ford capitalizes on her popularity among women her style and grace as a dancer but mrs reagan who has the features of a movie star behaves in a more subdued way at a republican women's brunch mrs ford and mrs reagan were within a few feet of each other but never said hello during the program nancy reagan listened quietly to the speeches betty ford gave one nancy reagan avoids controversy and political causes when she makes a rare public speech it's usually to thank people for supporting her husband nancy reagan seems to play the role of the woman behind the man but betty ford seems to play the role of the woman beside the man

01:58:02 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hw6MpKqsOSY&t=7082s)

the woman beside the man carol simpson nbc news kansas city they're both very attractive ladies but what we saw last night was incredible we may never see that again tonight we're going to see some other things nominating speeches balloting for the presidential nomination demonstrations we are fairly sure that gerald ford will get it but nobody is totally sure so if you'll just stay there in a minute or two our nbc news convention coverage will begin on this the third night of the republican national convention it's a good ticket because dole is a tough campaigner the critics say dole amid theological balance everyone agrees that the president has been as good as his word he said he would choose someone compatible with his own beliefs and bob

dole fits that description marilyn berger has the story of the president's decision the president met with top advisors for several hours in the early morning before he came to the decision to choose senator dole it's a very proud moment for me to have the opportunity of introducing uh my running mate for this campaign in 1976 i am really thrilled with the opportunity of having bob dole as my running mate to demonstrate that there's party unity mr ford said that ronald reagan had endorsed the selection of the senator from kansas i'm very proud to be uh on the ticket with president ford for many many reasons that i'll go into as i go along the campaign trail i'm not certain what i can add to the ticket but i will work hard and do the best i can not just for the republican party because i think america needs president ford's leadership for four more years

02:00:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hw6MpKqsOSY&t=7201s)

ford's leadership for four more years thank you very much as he returned to his downtown hotel dole lost no time improving the president's assessment that he's a good campaigner his wife elizabeth is from north carolina dole said that she'd be part of their southern strategy dole was not the leading contender in the kansas city rumor mill yesterday but in the final analysis he had what mr ford thought it takes he'd served in congress for 15 years he shares the president's conservative views he was the republican national chairman with links to all factions of the party and he was untouched by watergate marilyn berger nbc news at ford headquarters at the crown center hotel the president slept late this morning and so when jimmy carter called from georgia to congratulate him he was told mr ford was still asleep and what he called back later he did and the president announced his choice of dole did what he could to pull the republican party back together after it was slashed cleanly down the middle looked over the speech he will make here tonight saying yes he will accept the nomination john cochran is at ford's hotel and he tells the rest of it west virginia that did it gerald ford was over the top and he saw it all in his hotel suite with some of the people who have worked with him since new hampshire he said it had been a long hard struggle [Applause] then he took the trip he has long promised uncommitted delegates he would make over to ronald reagan's hotel to get reagan's advice on choosing a running mate the advice was not very important to the president but this picture was the president hopes it will convince reagan supporters to work for him then back to his own headquarters where he found a more enthusiastic welcome after this rally mr ford worked for three more hours on his vice presidential choice he was born tired by the time he

02:02:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hw6MpKqsOSY&t=7321s)

he was born tired by the time he appeared with senator dole but he has another decision to make by tomorrow who should head the republican national committee some of his advisors want him to dump the present chairman mary louise smith she wants to stay but mr ford is being told she is not tough enough to take on jimmy carter i think i can i think i can uh there will be many spokesmen and uh i believe that i probably will be one of them but some ford aides are urging the president to replace mrs smith with a stem winder like john connolly under that strategy mr ford would debate carter on television and in his speeches would talk primarily about his own accomplishments but the heavy attacks on carter would be made by surrogates the president will try to avoid looking like just another politician and his acceptance speech tonight will reflect that john cochran nbc news at ford headquarters in kansas city president's plan now is to go to his house and bail colorado away from the balloons and confetti and plastic horns for a little repose and to plan a campaign jimmy carter was asked today if the republicans had written off the south and he said maybe they had decided they couldn't beat him there and so would concentrate their campaign elsewhere john also on the program this evening we'll see ronald reagan making a an emotional farewell to national politics we'll have the latest from korea on the north korean murder of two american army ronald reagan's delegates have supported him with a degree of firmness and emotional not merely political emotional commitment not often seen in american politics last night when finally they lost many of them were sorry enough to cry and did and so did reagan today when he said goodbye and told of his vision of this country as a shining city on the hill kenley jones was there reagan invited members of his staff and some of his campaign workers to a farewell get together this morning in thanking his staff for their work

02:04:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hw6MpKqsOSY&t=7441s)

in thanking his staff for their work during the campaign reagan said despite defeat it has all been worthwhile sure there's a disappointment in what happened but the cause the cause goes on and you just stay in there and you stay there with the same belief and the same faith that made you do what you're you're doing here the individuals on the stage may change the cause is there and the cause will prevail because it's right don't get cynical uh don't get cynical because look at yourselves and what you were willing to do and recognize that there are millions and millions of americans out there that want what you want that want it to be that way that wanted to be a shining city on a hill several of reagan's state chairman who had worked throughout the night to draft reagan for the vice presidential nomination came to call but reagan told them he would not accept the draft and the movement died killed by reagan himself this fellas it's over but he uh he does not he's made it abundantly he doesn't want to be vice president he feels like he can do more for the free enterprise cause as a communicator on the outside and i think we'd all have to agree he's one of the best as for president ford's selection of senator robert dole as his running mate reagan's endorsement was proper but not enthusiastic do you think this ticket can win uh well i have to think it can win the alternative is so unthinkable reagan plans to leave his hotel this evening to visit the convention hall but he has no plans to address the delegates even though president ford asked him to of course that could change depending on

02:06:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hw6MpKqsOSY&t=7560s)

of course that could change depending on what happens when he gets there ken lee jones nbc news kansas city robert dole was born 53 years ago in russell kansas and attended the university of kansas he has a distinguished war record in the second world war and the war left him with a crippled arm dole is a conservative his political career and his voting record have placed him firmly to the right of center of the republican party he served as republican national chairman during part of the watergate scandals but the scandals were in the white house not in the national committee when dole was in a tight race for re-election to the senate in 1974 he was publicly critical of gerald ford on face the nation dole said that he was in trouble with kansas republicans because of mr ford's pardon of president nixon and the ford decision on amnesty dole said and we quote i really don't need any more help of that kind before november he won the election he was temporary chairman of this convention and here are some of the things he said as an interpreter translated for the deaf his words here give an indication of what kind of campaigner he'll be this fall the democrat party doesn't know where what its candidate stands for the american people don't know and the democrat candidate doesn't think we have a right to know he thinks it's wrong to question him he says it's a sign of desperation on the part of those who would question him he says we are voting the issues when we question him he said that the personal attack when we question him [Applause] but i have news for mr carter it isn't wrong it isn't desperate and isn't personal but it's democracy at work and we're going to make it work senator dole's wife elizabeth hanford dole who will appear on the roster this evening is an interesting woman she has a full career of her own she is a lawyer consumer advocate harvard oxford before her marriage to dole eight months ago after his divorce

02:08:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hw6MpKqsOSY&t=7680s)

ago after his divorce she was a member of the federal trade commission and still is there is some talk now that propriety requires her to resign and she is considering it some business people tell us they find her any business in her work in consumer affairs she has had some connection with ralph nader's operation and until recently she was not thought to be a republican or otherwise political here in kemper arena it is all over but the shouting but we expect a great deal of shouting tonight the acceptance speeches by bob dole the vice presidential candidate and the president uh nominated here last night we'll have a number of things tonight including the possibility that some delegates may try to draft ronald reagan for vice president he made his last hurrah today and says he doesn't want the job but it ought to be an interesting evening here nonetheless and we're going to start our coverage in about a minute and a half so stay with david and me and the rest of the nbc people and we'll have the convention for you once more from kemper arena this morning in kansas city air force one took off in one direction carrying president ford and a chartered jet took off in another carrying ronald reagan back to california by the time reagan arrived there there was talk of a third party sometime in the future of the vice presidency never offered to him don oliver was there at reagan's arrival for

ronald reagan the last 24 hours have been a succession of hugs handshakes and emotional goodbyes he left kansas city this morning amid rumors that he would have accepted the vice presidential nomination but it was not offered to him there were people in every delegation and there were californians who thought that i should but it was never offered to me but at the same time i never had any intention as i've said so often of taking it on his arrival in los angeles reagan

02:10:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hw6MpKqsOSY&t=7800s)

on his arrival in los angeles reagan admitted that he and others will consider forming a third-party movement if the republicans lose in november so ronald reagan returns to his ranch but he is determined to continue making an impact through his radio and television editorials and his newspaper columns reagan says we have not heard the last of him don oliver nbc news los angeles ronald reagan came within about 60 delegate votes of winning the presidential nomination here and he was the sentimental favorite of many of the forward delegates the question is why didn't gerald ford ask ronald reagan to run as a vice president one reason is that reagan said he didn't want it and he said that convincingly but some of reagan's close supporters felt that if the president had let the convention decide the convention would have picked reagan to run with ford and they could have persuaded reagan to accept the offer from ford was never made and the convention was not asked to decide he had a very very heart-to-heart talk uh on a very strong and personal basis about the necessity for ronald reagan taking that uh accepting that job if it were offered he did not tell me that he would accept it he did say however that he would consider it so that the door was opened uh uh just a crack it is accurate that uh the group that ronald reagan uh uh uh depends on uh were [Music] trying to get messages through and back communications uh uh with the president were extremely limited and i can only conclude that the president had made up his mind that he didn't want ronald reagan on the ticket

02:12:05 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hw6MpKqsOSY&t=7925s)

the ticket ford and dole went from kansas city this morning over to dole's hometown of russell kansas population 5631 it was the first time russell that had seen a president since theodore roosevelt's train stopped there a few minutes early in this century and the town turned itself into a small sea of american flags and homemade signs john cochran tells what happened the people of russell had barely gotten over the shock of hometown boy making good when they heard the president was coming the visit was senator dole's idea he invited the president to a picnic where they showed their coordination at eating hot dogs dole says he believes the president selected him partly for his campaigning ability but when dole talked to the people he has known for years today he did not talk politics it was a personal and emotional moment for him [Music] but i want to re-emphasize i did before if i've done anything it's because of people i've known up and down main street and i can recall the time when when i needed help uh the people at russell helped and i think dole's county attorney for six years here he is liked and respected but this is farm country and some in the crowd said they're still not sure they can vote for president ford farmers still get angry when they think about his embargo on grain sales to the russians last year but the president said that won't happen again this administration will never make the hard work in the production of the american farmer a pawn in international diplomacy

02:14:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hw6MpKqsOSY&t=8041s)

a pawn in international diplomacy [Applause] and then one final comment two words this administration will have no embargoes period [Music] [Applause] then the president left for bail colorado and a nine day vacation next week he will work on campaign strategy but for the next few days he says he isn't even going to think about politics john cochran nbc news russell kansas mission was unity the ford people worked hard at unity and so did the reagan people if the republicans are to win the presidential election they've got to hold on to all the republican voters in the country about one out of every four voters and get additional votes from democrats and independents so part of unity is where it all starts and that was reflected this morning in a meeting of the republican national committee bob jameson covered that story why don't we mingle for a while so i awake get awake and then we'll uh make a a comment or two why don't we do that how about it it

was the first meeting of the party's newly elected national committee the republicans ruling body it was supposed to be a show of unity prove that the convention has been put behind and that all republicans will now work for gerald ford's election but speckled among the smiles and scrambled eggs were glum faces some that way because of little sleep last night others because they belong to reagan supporters and ronald reagan was not a part of this show of unity the president and dole spoke briefly the president again saying the fight is over the impression the american people will have will be that of a party that is able to compete able to work out uh responsibly and properly compromises that are needed and necessary

02:16:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hw6MpKqsOSY&t=8160s)

necessary we can act like real zealots but also great americans an attempt to replace mary louise smith as party chairman with new york's richard rosenbaum did not develop in the interest of unity and smith was unanimously elected to another term and then the delegates began to scatter ending this meeting of a party whose incumbent president barely won the nomination a party that is a minority and a divided one at that one state chairman said time will heal these wounds but with only 74 days to the election there may not be that much time left bob jameson nbc news kansas city and here in the kemper arena the last hurrahs have been heard from the republican convention of 1976 it was an interesting convention and we all had a fine time in kansas city the city put up half a million dollars to get the convention to come here and got millions of dollars in good publicity and to the money spent here for the convention and now for kemper arena it's time to return to ordinary affairs brian ross has that story by noon today kansas city's kemper arena no longer looked like a political convention hall the podium the bunting the state standards and all the rest were being quickly removed but as delegates and thousands of others paid their hotel bills this morning city officials figured the republicans left behind about 15 million dollars bartenders said they had never sold so much liquor in one week bellman waitresses found the republicans to be generous tippers and fine guests i enjoy them i think i wish i wish you could stay longer [Music] a jazz band played in a man dressed as abe lincoln danced as more republicans left town today people in kansas city seem glad they had come brian ross nbc news kansas city

02:18:02 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hw6MpKqsOSY&t=8282s)

brian ross nbc news kansas city the british broadcasting corporation has been telling the british people that the republican convention was not a circus however it may look they were wrong of course it is a circus but with a serious purpose the events here have been followed with great interest in europe in the newspapers and on television a great many journalists were here to tell them about it gary gutley in london has a report you could almost hear a sigh of relief in europe over the news that president ford had won the republican nomination or more to the point that ronald reagan had not and there was a second sigh of relief when president ford did not pick reagan to be his vice presidential running mate for europe's image or impression of reagan is that of an ex-hollywood actor with a permanent smile and simplistic views about foreign policy a political success story which europeans claim with a slight feeling of superiority could happen only in america this is the television international sound circuit from kansas city to the edu here in britain television has reported extensively from kansas city on the convention explaining that appearances can be misleading a convention is not really a circus but a political process it's the closest race there's been and mr ronald reagan couldn't stop mr ford and probably in the end only quantrill's raiders who used to operate around kansas during the civil war could have stopped him so close as the grip of the ford forces become europeans still look towards the united states to the american president for the leadership of the non-communist world and the race between jimmy carter and gerald ford will be somewhat reassuring for people on this side of the atlantic for it means that no matter who wins it's not likely that there will be any important change in the substance of american foreign policy that no matter what happens to the other issues in the campaign foreign policy will not become a political football

02:20:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hw6MpKqsOSY&t=8400s)

will not become a political football to be kicked around this fall garrett copley nbc news in london and what they will have to face and deal with in the election jimmy carter said if he could deal with lester medics he certainly could deal with senator dole but mostly there was talk of the ford carter debate a challenge issued by both and accepted by both judy woodruff has tonight's report from planes carter said he looks forward to debating president ford he said mr ford really had no choice but to agree to the debate governor reagan had issued a debate challenge i had responded affirmatively and said i wanted to debate and uh it almost left uh president ford's no alternative in what is likely to be a major theme of the campaign carter charged that there is no leadership at all from the white house he said he doesn't blame watergate on mr ford but suggested richard nixon might as well still be in charge there is uh an almost complete continuity not in the crimes i think president ford is an honest and a decent man but uh in the policies of the nixon administration and domestic and foreign fields i have not detected any change in those policies on the part of of president ford carter said he doesn't plan to answer any personal attacks made by republicans unless they come from president ford himself but he said he can take the kind of attack senator dole has a reputation for making i spent four or five years dealing with uh lester maddox while i was governor he was lieutenant governor and uh he's an expert at one point carter described the ford dole ticket as a formidable one at another point he said ford weakened his chances by picking someone with an identical political and geographical background and while carter insisted he wouldn't raise watergate as an issue he described robert dole as a republican

02:22:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hw6MpKqsOSY&t=8521s)

he described robert dole as a republican party functionary who stuck with nixon until the last minute judy woodruff nbc news planes georgia in a place called dewey lake minnesota where he's resting senator mondale stopped resting long enough to go after the administration and to say he is ready to debate senator dole richard hunt has the story senator mondale is on a five-day vacation with his family at dewey lake minnesota the last free time he expects to have until election day during most of the republican convention he kept the discrete silence but today mondale held a news conference to attack what he called the nixon forward administration he said he was ready to debate senator bob dole the republican candidate for vice president assuming that the debates are worked out between the presidential candidates and i assume they will be i would be delighted to debate my opponent mondale said president ford should be held responsible for the economic policy of the nixon administration on the issues of general economic policy there's no question that they're identical uh mr ford was one of the key cheerleaders in the nixon administration he was one of his last defenders he has been uh true to the nixon principles in all the economic and social policies since he's become president there's no question about that nobody's arguing that so that to say it's the nixon ford administration i think is accurate and is fair mondale's first campaign press conference suggested that he's been put in charge of attacking president ford but for the president at least those attacks will be based upon policies and not personalities richard hunt nbc news dewey lake minnesota hey pete rose what's a man really want from an aftershave not fancy perfume or a fancy bottle then finally as we close out our convention coverage a story on a wyoming

02:24:02 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hw6MpKqsOSY&t=8642s)

convention coverage a story on a wyoming delegate for him it was a serious week not all beer and barbecue and he lost on some of the issues he came to kansas city to fight for mike jackson has his story [Music] this was the first day delegate tom carnell and his family had time to play in kansas city he is the first to say that while the convention looked like fun on television it was really hard work there wasn't much time for recreation you know aside from the convention activities themselves those sessions went late at night uh we pretty much spent the whole five days on politics and convention activities parnell was a reagan delegate from wyoming he supported resolution 16 c which would have helped ronald reagan a great deal and hurt president ford badly and for vice president he supported not robert dole but conservative senator jesse helms of north carolina harnell was not alone about half his fellow delegates agreed with him they lost those battles but one on some other issue primarily the platform for that reason parnell is optimistic about the future of the party liberalism has dominated in american politics uh really ever since 1932 it hasn't had a new idea since 1932. uh i think that any really major reform innovations we can expect in american life are going to come

from conservatives the losers could not get the votes this week but if tom parnell is any indication they did not lose their spirit mike jackson nbc news kansas city the republicans have had their show in kansas city jimmy carter is back out on the road he is on the west coast and from some of the things he's saying about gerald ford we are beginning to see the outlines of the fall democratic presidential campaign don oliver is traveling with carter jimmy carter says the campaign against

02:26:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hw6MpKqsOSY&t=8760s)

jimmy carter says the campaign against gerald ford hasn't begun the democratic national committee says the campaign hasn't begun but here in los angeles it sounded as though the democrats were firing some pretty powerful opening shots at gerald ford and company first robert strauss the democratic national chairman complained that the ford campaign had failed to pay for a whistle-stop train trip the president made in the michigan primary if true that would be a violation of the campaign financing laws then carter who had promised that his speech before the los angeles town hall forum would not be combative would not be critical of his opponent went ahead and was combative and was critical i believe that one of the real issues in this campaign is going to be president ford's record of vetoes it's a record that i cite more in sorrow than in anger but it's a record of political insensitivity of missed opportunities a constant conflict with the congress and of national neglect we've got enough of government by conflict and division and disharmony and veto this time this will be a continuing theme of the carter campaign that his opponent represents the rich and powerful and he represents just about everybody else this was a theme that he used effectively in the primary campaign but then his scorn was directed at democrats members of the washington establishment butter has made his peace with them so it seems now that all the rich and powerful in this campaign will be republicans ron oliver nbc news los angeles and called for a blanket pardon for those who violated draft laws during the vietnam war carter's speech to the legion was reminiscent of president ford's speech to the veterans of foreign wars in 1974 when mr ford produ proposed conditional amnesty today carter said there's a critical

02:28:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hw6MpKqsOSY&t=8880s)

today carter said there's a critical difference between amnesty and pardon amnesty he says means what you did was right a pardon means that what you did right or wrong is forgiven the proposal did not go down well with the legionnaires don oliver covered the story carter put on his legionnaires cap and strode into the american legion national convention knowing that some of what he was going to say was not going to make the legion members very happy he started by telling them he would restore patriotism in the nation if he's elected they liked that they appointed when he said us military strength must be equivalent to that of the russians they responded when he urged that waste in the pentagon be eliminated but when carter began talking about young men who left the country rather than be drafted for the vietnam war he and the legionnaires parted company i want you to listen carefully but i don't want you to misunderstand me i do not favor blanket amnesty but for those for those who violated selective service laws i intend to grant a blanket pardon me [Music] oh to me there's a difference amnesty means that what you did was right a pardon means that what you did right or wrong is forgiven so pardon yes amnesty no later the national commander of the american legion was non-committal about carter's proposal we were going to examine very carefully his statement concerning the distinction between pardon and amnesty air blanket amnesty we agree with him 100 on half of what he said that's that's a case-by-case consideration of

02:30:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hw6MpKqsOSY&t=9000s)

that's a case-by-case consideration of the of the deserter carter says the wounds of vietnam must not be allowed to fester any longer that the differences of 1966 should be forgotten the legionnaires disagree the issue may dog him the rest of the campaign don oliver nbc news seattle carter was asked today how he thought he'd do in debates with the president and he said he thought he'd come out well he said i would not be reticent or timid and the president today made a not so resident reticent proposal that the debates with carter begin early run at least 90 minutes each before in number and begin with a debate on national defense the president was meeting with political advisers at his vacation home in colorado today and marilyn

berger of our staff was there this morning the president held a formal meeting with his campaign team including richard chaney stuart spencer james baker who was the chief delegate counter during the primaries and michael duvall a white house aide the president is far behind in the polls and the strategy is to take the offensive and mr ford came out fighting it's my very strong conviction that the american people have a right to know where i stand on the issues and where my opponent stands on the issues i challenged my opponent to a series of debates i feel very strongly that the first debate should come a day or two after labor day i look forward to the first one and each of the next three and the sooner we get started the better the decision to go for early debates appeared designed to catch jimmy carter off balance ford advisers want to smoke carter out get him to put himself on the line on specific issues which they contend he's been dodging up to now they acknowledge the president is the underdog but they say they think he can

02:32:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hw6MpKqsOSY&t=9121s)

underdog but they say they think he can win on the issues and there's more their gambling that public exposure of the two men together will benefit mr ford and that voters watching the debates will look beyond the issues and see that the man they want to make decisions for them is ford not carter marilyn berger nbc news with the president in vail colorado ford and jimmy carter has narrowed greatly the first published poll taken nationally after the republican convention last week a telephone poll by opinion research of princeton shows only a nine point lead for carter before the republican convention carter's lead in the gallup poll was 33 points and it's known that the gallup poll coming out tomorrow will show a huge decline in carter's lead good news for mr ford and good news for his running mate bob dole who was in seattle today where jimmy carter yesterday upset the american legion dole took advantage of his situation robert hager was there seattle's morning newspaper headline carter wrankle's legion asks pardon for draft evaders it was an ideal situation for senator dole the decorated world war ii veteran wounded in action and though made the most of it calling on american legion wives touring a veteran's hospital here talking to patients [Music] then at the legionnaires convention dole made the predictable attack on jimmy carter yesterday you had a number of speakers and i don't know who all was here but but one of your speakers stated and i quote i do not favor a blanket amnesty but for those who violated selective service laws i intend to grant a blanket

02:34:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hw6MpKqsOSY&t=9240s)

service laws i intend to grant a blanket pardon let there be no confusion as to president ford's position on this issue it's unequivocal it applies equally to draft invaders and deserters no blanket pardon no blanket amnesty no blanket clemency this is precisely the role senator dole believes he's to play in this campaign attacking carter answering carter's speeches allowing president ford to remain more statesmanlike more presidential robert hager nbc news in seattle while president ford on the other hand is in vail colorado contemplating the mountains breathing the clean air and shaking and rattling his campaign staff and installing his third campaign director this year james baker replacing rogers morton marilyn berger is in vail and here's what she has to say the president before going off to what has become his daily round of golf appeared before reporters today with a reorganized president ford committee rogers morton the chairman during the primaries has been pushed upstairs to head something called a steering committee the head of the pfc will be jim baker jim demonstrated to me a very outstanding organizational capability and he will be the chairman of the president ford committee well i uh i think everyone recognizes that uh that we have an uphill fight i think frankly that uh that a lot of people are uh selling a short i think we uh i think we're gonna surprise a lot of people i think you're going to see uh here within the next few days some some rather dramatic gains in the polls if there are winners or losers in debates do you see the president winning

02:36:02 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hw6MpKqsOSY&t=9362s)

debates do you see the president winning well i think the president uh believes he would win that debate or he wouldn't have issued the challenge and i think he will win the debate now there are reports that uh the ford team has written off certain states new york texas and the deep south i don't expect you to admit you've written them off but how do you expect to win these states well in the first place i would like to uh i would i

would like to scotch those reports i think nothing could be further from the truth than that we have written off states such as texas and to the iowa state fair to tell what his farm policies will be if he is elected for one thing he said there will not be absolutely will not be any embargoes on american farmers selling their grain abroad don oliver also went to the fair if you're a presidential candidate and you want a forum to complain about the farm policies of your opponent where do you go you go to the iowa state fair the heart of the nation's farm belt carter was here to reassure the farmers that the american people respect them but that a wall of mistrust has been built between the food producers and the consumers a wall constructed he says by gerald ford and secretary of agriculture earl butts we need a guarantee of a decent price for the farmer an original price for the consumer net farm income went down by one-fourth 25 between 1973 and 1975 the cost of production as you all know have increased much more rapidly than that support levels are unreasonably low if i'm elected we'll have our support prices at least an equal production cost and you can depend on that too murder still maintains with tongue-in-cheek that his presidential campaign has not begun

02:38:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hw6MpKqsOSY&t=9480s)

campaign has not begun but in less than three days this week he hit five cities in three states made 18 appearances and used every opportunity to denounce his republican opponents all of this activity is not accidental carter is trying to steal the march on president ford presenting himself as an active moving candidate in contrast to his republican opponent who is still vacationing and plotting strategy in colorado don oliver nbc news planes georgia if farmers were important for jimmy carter today big city politicians in the labor vote were important for his running mate senator walter mondale of minnesota charles quinn is traveling with the mondale campaign and here is his report on how it began it was no accident important for his running mate senator walter mondale of minnesota charles quinn is traveling with the mondale campaign and here is his report on how it began it was no accident that mondale's first stop in his long campaign swing across america was chicago to see mayor richard daly one of the most powerful democrats in the country big city problems will be a major democratic issue this fall and mondale wasted little time getting to it the republican administration and the republican vice presidential nominee have both had clear and consistent records of ignoring the problems which citizens living in our cities face they have helped engineer now two very severe recessions over the last eight years and as we meet today nearly eight percent of the american workforce is unemployed later at a labor meeting in harrisburg pennsylvania mondale talked about full employment it's not radical it's not revolutionary we've done it before it's american that's what we're talking about and that ford and that dole ticket are out of the mainstream of american life that is a very republican ticket and america cannot afford a very

02:40:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hw6MpKqsOSY&t=9601s)

and america cannot afford a very republican ticket anymore mondale's job in the campaign will be to hit the republicans hard on the issues he says he believes the election will be very close that's why he and jimmy carter plan to campaign five and a half to six days a week from now until november charles quinn nbc news harrisburg pennsylvania arranging debates for two presidential candidates is like arranging a vaudeville act for two hungry bears and it has to be done carefully there were meetings today of the ford squad the carter squad and the league of women voters which will sponsor the debates there are legal and financial questions not yet answered a lot of lawyers sitting around wondering how to pay for the costs without violating the new election law catherine mackin was there for the meeting in washington as the two sides met there was considerable disagreement ford wanted four debates starting in early september with the first debate on national defense carter preferred the end of the month three debates and the looser format in which questions on any subject could be covered at the end of their first meeting both sides reported progress which implied there was compromise [Music] we've made good progress and we think we'll come to an agreement in the very near future are you committed to working with the league on this we're not committed to working with anybody we're committed to listening to their proposal and we think it's it's making progress and we'll continue to work with them as long as progress is there now are you meeting with the networks as well no no we did make some good progress there's no doubt in my mind whatsoever that we will have

presidential debates this year and that uh that we'll be able to agree on a on a format and a timing that will be uh the interesting and in the interest of the uh of the public actually the only firm agreement all parties reported following their three and a half hour meeting is that they will meet again next

02:42:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hw6MpKqsOSY&t=9720s)

is that they will meet again next wednesday catherine mackin nbc news washington their three and a half hour meeting is that they will meet again next wednesday catherine mackin nbc news washington before the republican convention and after he had won the democratic nomination jimmy carter held a commanding lead over president ford 56-33 in the gallup poll but in the latest gallup taken after the republican convention carter dropped and the president gained carter's lead is down to 10 points this usually happens in presidential years but the drop in carter support was a sharp one nevertheless and it brought a wide smile to gerald ford's face as he conferred with his advisors his running mate bob dole was out chasing jimmy carter around the country and our man bob hager was chasing bob dole it was the second day in a row that dole had followed jimmy carter contradicting him every step of the way noel says it's strictly a coincidence this time it was the iowa state fair in the farm bill where republicans are counting on gold's popularity farmers here are angry with the republicans or putting embargoes on sales of their grain to foreign countries by now both parties say they're generally against embargoes adult claims carter is still blurring the issue yesterday governor carter is here and he's an outstanding man i don't have any quarrel with governor carter but he said he was going to end green embargoes once and for all about an hour later he had an interview he told the interviewers that his language had been too strong so at 9 30 yesterday morning he had a flat position no great embargoes at 10 30 he had a big loophole i think we have to decide which is his position on grain embargo is one of 9 30 the one at 10 30 or the one that may be in the democrat platform in reality dole's position and what carter told his interviewer are about

02:44:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hw6MpKqsOSY&t=9840s)

carter told his interviewer are about the same open opposed embargoes except in extreme emergency the iowa appearance wrapped up two days of campaigning for senator dole tonight he's in vail colorado for strategy sessions with president ford robert hager nbc news des moines carter has said for weeks his big lead in the polls would not last and so he was not surprised when the new gallup poll showed his lead over president ford cut by more than half and he had a little something to say about senator dole's attack on his carter's views on agriculture policy don oliver is in plains georgia it is the beginning of the peanut harvest season in the south georgia a time of year that is of great interest to jimmy carter it is the buying and selling of peanuts that provides carter with his livelihood brother billy runs the warehousing operation freeing carter to pursue his political goals at a quarter of seven this morning they were assessing this year's harvest wondering how much money they'd make from the 12 to 15 000 tons of peanuts that will pass through their warehouse as much as he's concerned with the peanut business carter has other things on his mind the presidential debates and his standing in the gallup poll which shows that he's leading president ford by only 10 points a drop of 13 points since the end of july we've always anticipated a very short narrowing of the lead that i've had i've always expected i've always stated that this was going to happen we have not been surprised about it i talked to pacquiao last night he said it was within the realm that he expected we'll be polling continually and nobody knows what's going to happen in the future but i've never anticipated an easy time and as you know a 10 lead is still a very substantial lead after the convention is over carter was repeatedly questioned about a speech he made yesterday in which he said he would not impose embargoes on the export of farm products if he is elected later carter said he had been too strong

02:46:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hw6MpKqsOSY&t=9961s)

later carter said he had been too strong that he would favor embargoes if there was a food shortage in the united states today carter said he didn't think he was being inconsistent or misleading in the two statements he said he can't possibly put every equivocation or detail into each one of his speeches and he says he stands on the speech he made in des moines don oliver nbc news planes georgia the american independent

party formerly george wallace's political vehicle is drawing up a platform and nominating a candidate in chicago this week former governor lester maddox of georgia a sworn enemy of jimmy carter may be the nominee today a speaker said the aip platform should appeal to farmers and blue collar workers and not just silk stocking conservatives he said quote you have got to get the grass down to where the goats can eat it from the nbc news center in new york good evening john chancellor is on vacation he'll be back in two weeks president ford is in vail colorado where he said today he believes the american people want their foreign affairs run by somebody more experienced than jimmy carter that is to say somebody like him this was at a meeting of his party's leaders vice president rockefeller senator dole and john connolly conley also said that he had detected around the country a view that there is a note of fear and uncertainty about carter john cochran is in vail listening to all of this including the president's promise that he will run on a platform of peace higher employment and higher living standards president ford emerged from the final strategy session anxious not only to stress his campaign programs but to deny reports that he has written off some sections of the country including new york texas and virtually all of the south mr ford is counting on vice president rockefeller to help him in new york and on john connolly to offset jimmy

02:48:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hw6MpKqsOSY&t=10080s)

and on john connolly to offset jimmy carter's popularity in texas and the south the president said he will not use his running mate senator dole as a hatchet man to attack carter but mr ford said that both he and dole will be talking about what they regard as carter's indecisiveness and conley who dominated the outdoor news conference went further saying that many americans are afraid of carter saying yes there's a great deal of fear on the part of those who are knowledgeable about foreign uh policy matters and defense matters there's a great deal of fear that if he if he's elected they're going to be more serious cut cuts in the defense effort i have the distinct feeling and i think some of the polls indicate it that the american people want an individual with experience running our foreign policy they don't want a person whose name as governor connolly said they didn't know a year and a half ago running american foreign policy connolly denied reports that he thinks president ford is a loser of course i don't review him as a loser i uh i think uh you know i'm a fellow that understands these gaps when i announced for governor of texas in 1962 the polls indicated that i had four percent so when you talk about close to 10 percent gap that's no hill for a stepper conley came here to urge the president and senator dole to wage an aggressive hard-hitting campaign against carter connolly left here satisfied that his advice will be followed john cochran nbc news vale colorado while the president in colorado was uneasy about jimmy carter's lack of experience in foreign affairs carter in georgia was uneasy about the president's running up such huge federal federal deficits judy woodruff in plains has been examining some of what carter's been saying and not saying i do believe in tough competent management and i've tried to practice it as a naval officer a former businessman

02:50:02 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hw6MpKqsOSY&t=10202s)

as a naval officer a former businessman and as a governor myself carter has tried to sell himself to the american people as prudent when it comes to spending money someone who wants to cut out the waste in government and balance the federal budget he criticizes president ford for running up a huge deficit but there is a contradiction at the same time carter criticizes mr ford for vetoing a lot of money bills mr ford has already vetoed 53 bills about four times as many vetoes per year as his predecessor these vetoes haven't helped our economy they haven't balanced a budget [Music] far from it they've only contributed to needless continuations of human suffering what is confusing is that carter admits if he had been president he would not have signed all the bills mr ford vetoed i can't say that i would have signed them in the exact form that they were written because i'm not familiar with the details of those bills i have not studied them carter says he would have worked more closely with congress so there wouldn't have been a need for many of the vetoes in any event carter suggests he would have signed most of the bills the president vetoed bills that would cost the taxpayers a lot of money one bill carter says he would not have vetoed was the original version of the emergency employment act intended to create almost 2 million jobs that bill would have cost 5.2 billion dollars another bill carter says he would not have vetoed would have enlarged the school lunch program it became law over mr ford's veto and is costing 2.7 billion dollars this year carter would agree it is

difficult to put a price tag on all mr ford's vetoes in many cases the president wanted the legislation passed but not at the high cost congress proposed high cost that carter suggests he would have gone along with carter continues to describe himself as

02:52:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hw6MpKqsOSY&t=10321s)

carter continues to describe himself as a liberal on social issues and a conservative on money matters what he hasn't made clear is how he can have it both ways judy woodruff nbc news planes georgia georgia while senator mondale is on a nine-day nine city campaign trip he began it on new york city's ninth avenue a market district where he shook hands pinched the peaches and ate an italian sandwich good he said then on to syracuse today in the muggy dawn of the factory gate then on to milwaukee charles quinn went with him it was a traditional campaign day for a political candidate the compulsory stop at a plant gate in this case to shake hands with auto workers in syracuse new york then a tour of another factory in a different part of the city in these opening days of the campaign mondale has been low-key but today at a party rally he zeroed in on senator gold he voted against the housing acts of 61 and 64. he voted against the creation of the housing and urban development department he voted against the metropolitan development act and against funds for urban renewal in 69 and 70. he voted to delete subsidies for mass transit and operating subsidies as well as far as the cities are concerned the carter mondale ticket is pro city we want people who live in cities to have a decent life decent housing a job and we want cities to be livable and we want people who live in cities to be proud of them and want to continue to live there that couldn't be a more fundamental difference between the two tickets hayes to mondale said this new attack on dole was not directly tied to the rising republican assault against his running mate jimmy carter mondale has said the role of a political attack man is not his style but he may have to change because carter has said that

02:54:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hw6MpKqsOSY&t=10441s)

change because carter has said that he would have mondale handle dole charles quinn nbc news milwaukee lester maddox was in chicago too for the convention of the american independent party where he is a candidate for their nomination for president when he has a chance to put a stiletto into jimmy carter's ribs he does and today he said carter will crush and destroy anything that stands in his way one of maddox's rivals for the nomination said maddox had a lot of good ideas but he did have an image problem and finally tonight some details on the ford carter debates seem to have been worked out tentatively at least the plan now calls for three debates each an hour and fifteen minutes long beginning in about three weeks in late september the federal election commission said they would not violate the election laws and it agreed to having the league of women voters sponsor them and for the television networks to broadcast them here's irving r levine election commission attorneys pointed out that the league of women voters has a 50-year history of nonpartisanship and that the money spent to arrange the debates would not be intended to benefit any one candidate then the six commission members voted commissioner aiken moves that the policy statement has amended be approved those in favor of that motion will signify by raising your hand it's unanimously agreed to today's vote left open the question of how to pay for the debates the commission ruled that the 150 000 the league of women voters will need could be raised by voluntary contributions from union members and from corporation stockholders someone suggested selling tickets to the debate but this was ruled out because audience applause might improperly influence

02:56:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hw6MpKqsOSY&t=10561s)

applause might improperly influence voters watching tv at home irving r levine nbc news washington both candidates say they can hardly wait to get at each other president ford says he wants to pin carter down and carter says he wants to cross-examine the president here are two reports this morning carter said he thought a tentative agreement had been reached for three debates 75 minutes each president ford wants them confined to one topic each carter wants them wide ranging i think the freer the debates are the more chance gerald ford and i have to cross-examine one another to let the news media jump in with both feet to let the american people see an unstructured format the better they'll be able to size up how much i know compared

to what he knows what our general opinions are but if president ford can go in briefed on just one narrow subject with a whole sheaf of documents and you know memorized statements i think that will remove a great deal of the debate aspect from it and that's what i don't want to see carter went on to atlanta to resume campaigning on arrival he learned of the decision permitting the league of women voters to sponsor the debates he said he was pleased that he thought the debates could now get into the subject of leadership the proper role of the president carter says he is an eager student well-read he is willing to bank on his memory and his ability to think fast on his feet to come out ahead in the debates that's why he wants at least one with no limit on the subject matter don oliver nbc news atlanta here at the white house officials say the issue is not whether the candidates can think fast on their feet but whether the debaters can get down to specifics these officials say that with 27 years of government experience behind him president ford can win had he not thought so he wouldn't have proposed the debates in the first place although carter says there's tentative agreement on the format of the debates

02:58:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hw6MpKqsOSY&t=10681s)

agreement on the format of the debates white house officials and representatives of the league of women voters as well say there are still some important details to be worked out there'll be a meeting of the ford carter negotiators on wednesday if there's any one single sticking point so far as the white house negotiators are concerned it will be whether each debate should be devoted to a single subject president ford's negotiators say they're still holding out for separate debates on separate issues they say that only in that way can a panel of experts be empowered to ask specific and searching questions of both candidates an unstructured debate they argue would be nothing but a massive generalities a media event the view here is that carter's been ducking the issues and president ford is willing to gamble on his performance to force carter out to put him on the record marilyn berger nbc news the white house weapons nearly 10 billion dollars worth last year making the us the world's largest supplier of arms senator walter mondale out on the stump is trying to make this into a political issue saying a country once proud to call itself the arsenal arsenal of democracy has now become just an arsenal he spoke about this and other things today in san francisco and charles quinn was there mondale first had breakfast with some of san francisco's top labor leaders not surprisingly they talked about unemployment mondale said that every time the republicans get into office they manage to put millions of americans out of work what we say is do you want jobs or do you want a ford dole [Music] mondale has been sharpening his attacks against president ford and the republicans in recent days mostly on domestic issues here at a commonwealth club luncheon in san francisco he took after the president on a new subject armed sales abroad this profligate policy of selling arms

03:00:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hw6MpKqsOSY&t=10800s)

this profligate policy of selling arms to all comers no matter how repressive or tyrannical the government has had a terrible impact on our world position and reputation america was once proud of calling itself the arsenal of democracy but i'm afraid if we're not careful we'll be just an arsenal i believe the administration's record in pushing arms sales is scandalous it has been a practical failure and a moral failure we must and we will make greater efforts to control this process mondale said that these arms sales could drag america into local conflicts and he cited the murder of three american technical advisers in iran as an example he said that when all the arms deals with iran go through as many as 60 000 americans could wind up living there about the same number that fought in vietnam in 1965 charles quinn nbc news san francisco it was a full busy rush crowded and presumably successful day for carter in washington he talked to the unions to senator kennedy his party's state chairman its national chairman to senior statesman avril harriman to a group of catholic bishops and then left for new york and for more fundraising dinners here's don oliver in washington it was an important occasion carter now has the backing of organized labor but he had to win it it did not come easily he needs hard work from union members to win in november but his speech before the afl-cio general board did not generate an enthusiastic reaction it was not the kind of stem winder that union men like to hear although carter did repeatedly criticize the republicans for their economic record we've seen a government to try to fight the evils of inflation for the evil of unemployment

03:02:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hw6MpKqsOSY&t=10920s)

for the evil of unemployment and which has brought on our nation the worst combination of inflation and unemployment at the same time that we've had in the 20th century earlier senator edward kennedy had a meeting with carter their relationship had been strained carter earlier in the year said something about kennedy that can't be repeated on a family television program but after their first private meeting in two years kennedy came out comparing carter favorably with his brother john kennedy uh i'm sure he'll be uh successful because they i think in 1960 what came across the sincerity of president kennedy to deal with the problems of america and i think that same sincerity uh is come across in the governor carter's campaign this was a day for attempts to shore up areas where carter is weak he held a private meeting with catholic bishops who are concerned that his position against abortion is not strong enough after the meeting a spokesman for the bishop said they were disappointed because carter still refused to support a constitutional amendment banning most abortions later however in new york carter said he would not try to block an anti-abortion amendment and that people who want to support such an amendment should be allowed to don oliver nbc news new york in september carter will campaign harry truman style from the back platform of a train rolling and rattling along from new york to chicago stopping for speeches along the way small note on high political strategy in the carter campaign a political advance man travels ahead of a traveling candidate and arranges for parades speeches and so on it's hard work long hours carter is now choosing his advancement and giving them tests such as having a cocktail party at 11 p.m to see if any of them get drunk and then checking in the morning to see if after a little late drinking they're still able to get up and out early

03:04:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hw6MpKqsOSY&t=11040s)

still able to get up and out early a part of a free country's democratic political process thank you and good night for all of us at nbc news

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